The Student Voice
2007-2008

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The Student Voice

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Gandhi at WSC

Thomas W. Marino III
Editor-in-Chief

The fifth grandson of Mohandas K. "Mahatma" Gandhi made his second ever appearance at Worcester State College on the afternoon of October 5, this time attending a luncheon and roundtable of fifteen students and professors at the President's Dining Room in the Student Center. Along with being a descendent of the "Mahatma" (translated, "The Great Soul") Arun Gandhi is the co-founder of the M.K. Gandhi Institute for Non-Violence based at Rochester University. The Gandhi Institute is dedicated to "planting the seeds of change" toward non-violence and promoting that humanity must "learn to reduce violence to a bare minimum."

Gandhi gave a very short introduction of himself, highlighting his upbringing as inextricably intertwined with the philosophy of non-violence, and his voyage from his birthplace, South Africa, to India with the ashes of his deceased father in hand at the age of twenty-four. While in India and recovering from surgery, he met his then nurse, later wife and co-founder of the Gandhi Institute, Sunanda, whom passed away in her sleep on February 21, 2007. Due to the rules of the Apartheid system in South Africa, the newlyweds could not return to Arun's South Africa home, and elected to remain in India together. There they implemented a campaign, based on the teachings of their grandfather, against the rigid, millennia old Caste System of India.

Immigrating to the United States in 1984, Gandhi first established the Gandhi Institute in Tennessee, but relocated to Rochester in 2004 due to Sunanda's deteriorating health and proximity to their daughter.

The majority of Gandhi's appearance was conducted as a dialog amongst the attendees, across many subjects, including the attacks of September 11, 2001.

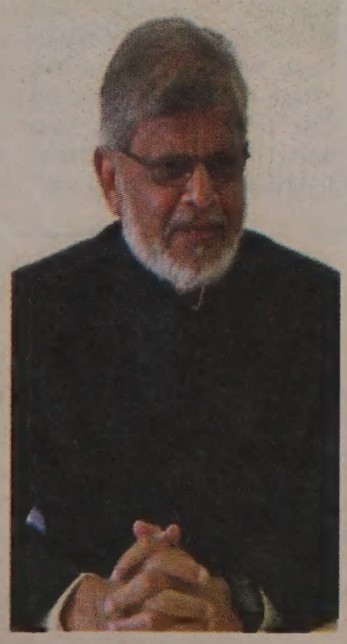
Gandhi called the actions of the passengers on United Flight 93, which crashed in Pennsylvania on that day, "a great act of non-violence [...] violence can never be completely eliminated." Gandhi compared the anger of the American people after September 11, 2001 to the anger amongst the Indian people after a British massacre of hundreds in 1930 in response to his grandfather's famous "Salt March."

Arun quoted his grandfather from that time, who said "the British need to be liberated from their hate and colonialism as much as [Indians] from their political oppression."

Arun said that the causes of September 11 "haven't been addressed" and that "instead of providing moral leadership and channeling that [post-9-11] anger positively, our leadership exploited that anger [...] peace is the same for Christians, Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus and Jews."

Speaking to the Agape Community, a sustainable living, Catholic, interfaith outreach community in Ware, MA, the following day, Gandhi asked the audience to "live by the Sermon on the Mount."

Arun Gandhi's appearance at WSC was made possible by the Agape Community (www.agapecommunity.org), WSC's Cultural Diversity Department and WSC's Center for the Study of Human Rights. The M.K. Gandhi Institute for Non-Violence at Rochester University can be found at www.gandhiinstitute.net Arun Gandhi has authored several books, including his memoir "Legacy of Love: My Education in the Path of Nonviolence," available from North Bay Books. He also authored "The Forgotten Woman: The Untold Story of Kastur, Wife of Mahatma Gandhi" with his wife, Sunanda, which is available from Ozark Mountain Publishers.



Castro's Daughter Comes to Worcester

Megan Montgomery
Managing Editor

"I hardly speak Spanish at this time of the morning never mind English," laughs Alina Fernandez Revuelta upon approaching the podium on the twenty-seventh of September at Worcester State College's Blue Lounge. A self proclaimed night person, Revuelta is the author of two books, a lecturer at colleges throughout the United States, lab technician, and hosts the Miami radio show Simplemente Alina. "I am pretty lazy really," she smiles impishly. A lock of hair escapes her pony tail and her eyes dance mischievously towards the audience as though part of some big secret which is somehow escaping the crowd.

One hazy Havana summer future dictator Fidel Castro, and rising socialite Natalia Revuelta met one another in secret and from their relationship was born Alina Fernandez Revuelta. Both Castro and Revuelta were married to others but, found themselves deeply in love and united together by their struggle against Fugencia Batista, who was president of Cuba until the Castro led Cuban Revolution of 1959.

Their flame was kept alive through letters written to one another while he was imprisoned. This back fired when Castro mistakenly sent one of his love letters meant for Revuelta to his wife, bringing to light his extra-marital activity and forcing him to end his secret affair.

Tall and slim Revuelta looks more like her father than she cares to admit. Her dark eyes are a canvas of the pain she houses in her soul but, there is an inextinguishable fire found in them as well. Her eyes are indeed very much like that of her fathers.

Though his blood runs through her she has risen to become one of Castro's most outspoken critics. The crowd gathered around her listened intently as Revuelta recalled her impoverished childhood growing up as the illegitimate daughter of Fidel Castro. "People came to me with their concerns, their troubles, their tragedies, wanting me to reach Castro, my father, a man I could not even reach myself," stated a solemn Revuelta.

It was not until the age of ten when she discovered her father was one of the most powerful men in all of Cuba. Revuelta recalled memories of Castro's infrequent visits to their home late at night, portraying him as a hairy man wreathed in a cloud of cigar smoke. "When he used to come and visit my mother's eyes lit up like two candles. My grandma called him the devil; she hated him."

Alina Fernandez Revuelta

Describing in intimate detail her life growing up in Cuba, Revuelta witnessed her country transform before her eyes and was powerless to stop conditions from deteriorating. At the age of three she remembers Mickey Mouse being replaced on the television by her father shouting execution orders.

"The cartoons were replaced by hairy men-for 50 years," she said.

During her early adult life Revuelta was a model and public relations director for a Cuban fashion company. Disappointed at the state of the country, friends from the United States sent her enough money to engineer her escape to Spain. Doused in Chanel Perfume, Revuelta placed a pair of dark oversized sunglasses over her eyes and marched through the airport disguised as a tourist chattering loudly and purposely as she slipped into a plane that would fly her away from a lifetime of struggles.

Fourteen years since the day of her escape Revuelta resides in Miami, Florida with her daughter and has not looked back since. It has been over twenty years since she has spoken with her father and she prefers to keep it that way.

Her mother still resides in Cuba and corresponds with her daughter occasionally through emails. She says she will never join her daughter in the United States. Leaving Cuba behind would be like abandoning her identity. It is the land that holds memories of hope and strife and feelings for a certain man that have not tarnished over the years.

In a telephone interview Alina Fernandez Revuelta discussed openly her wishes and dreams for Cuba as well as private details and struggles within her own life.

Q: Your radio show Simplemente Alina devotes Wednesdays exclusively to Cuban politics. How do you picture Cuba's future politically twenty years from

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THE VOICE
Worcester State College's Student Newspaper

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The Student Vice of Worcester State College

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The Student Voice welcomes letters, essays, and articles provided they are typed and are submitted with a name and means to contact the author. Any pieces that are deemed questionable are brought before the executive board. In the event of a tie the Editor-in-Chief has final decision. Letters run at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief and are subject to editing for style and length. The Editor reserves the right to republish any works at their discretion.

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From the Desk of: The Editor in Chief

The WSC Student Voice has had a dramatic makeover this year, with much of the former staff graduating last year. The only member of the team from last year who has returned to the team is Jeffrey Moffett, who had served The Voice as editor-in-chief. Jeff has chosen not to run for an elected position this year, and plans to dedicate more time to academics interests in this, his senior year. Jeff will continue to report for The Voice and is playing a crucial role as a special adviser to the all-new staff. Without Jeff's guidance and advice, the new staff would be suffering tremendously, and the existence of The Voice could have been threatened. The Voice team, as well as the wider student body, owes Jeff a tremendous amount of gratitude.

The new staff at The Voice has some ambitious ideas which it hopes to implement over this semester, including a much wider area of coverage including Student Government, Academic Policy, Board of Trustee meetings, Campus Sports, Campus Entertainment, community news and other areas. The staff of the Voice also hopes to bring the paper to an aggressive online presence in the near future.

If you are interested in working with The Voice, the editors keep office hours from 10:30 A.M. to 12:30 P.M Monday and Wednesday and 1:00 P.M. to 2:30 P.M. Tuesday and Thursday. There is also a team meeting on Tuesday at 2:30 P.M. that is open to anyone who can make the time to attend.

The Voice hopes to bring students on board in many areas including Campus Sporting Events, Campus Entertainment Events, Campus Presentations and Lectures, Student Government Reporting, Board of Trustees Reporting, Academic Policy Reporting, Community Events, Supporting Researchers and Analysts and Business Students interested in supporting Advertising.

All those interested in writing, supporting, analyzing and/or advertising for The Student Voice should contact Editor-in-Chief Tom Marino at tmarino@worcester.edu.

If there is a story or event that you think The Voice should cover, please contact Managing Editor Megan Montgomery at MMontgomery@worcester.edu.

Thomas W. Marino III

A World of Difference

Kelly Fellows
Staff Writer

Alright, I want you to think back to what you did last Spring Break. Can you remember it? Sitting on a beach watching the sun set over the Pacific Ocean, a bonfire at your back? How about going to a marketplace and bartering your way to better deals, like an $8 bag that in any US retailer would easily go for $40? Climbing a volcano? Teaching kids how to live a healthier way of life? Helping native Spanish speakers how to converse in English so that they may go to the local university? If that doesn't sound familiar to you, then chances are you didn't get the wonderful opportunity to travel to Nicaragua last Spring Break with the ASB group at WSC.

ASB, short for Alternative Spring Break, is currently 8 people strong, and we are looking to expand our group this year. While this vacation may not be the insane parties you see on MTV, we feel that it is much more enjoyable because most importantly, you remember it. It is a chance to witness another culture and entirely different ways of living. It's also a chance to become well-traveled, which in today's world is crucial for any career.

One of the most striking things about this trip is the chance to see how alike humanity really is, yet how different at the same time. We got the chance to talk with people that understood less English than we understood of Spanish, and somehow we managed to communicate just fine.

During the English class that we were able to sit in on, some of the ASB students exchanged email addresses with some of the Nicaraguan students and have kept in touch with them since March.

And just a few more of the activities we did, which may entice you to join us, we also climbed inside a lava tube, stood on the edge of an active volcano, and helped to repair the seats for an outdoor baseball field.

If any of this sounds interesting to you, get in touch with Carrie Rice in Sullivan 220 or email her at crice@worcester.edu

If you would like to learn more about Nicaragua, there will be a course offered in the spring semester called "the Nicaraguan Experience". Hope to see you there!

Admin Village Road: A Two Way Street

Jeffrey Moffett
Staff Writer

Worcester State College is full of divisions. Residential students tend to remain on the upper campus while commuter students tend to flock to the lower sections. Nontraditional students usually come at night while traditional students rule the day. On October 9, one of the most controversial divisions of the school will come to an end. The road between the Admin Village and the Learning Resource Center will once again be open to two way traffic.

The Roadway between the Admin Village and the LRC had been restricted to one way traffic since the beginning of the semester. This was done to lessen the congestion of traffic that was expected from opening the new parking garage. By doing this, campus was virtually split in two. A student would have to go onto May Street to reach the parking garage from the Student Center.

This action was extremely unpopular with commuter students. Commuter Sarah Wilson complains that "There is only one major exit now. In the evening it takes forever to get off of campus. I used to go the other way" (referring to the exit near the parking garage). Addressing student complaints, the senate wrote to the administration decrying the new traffic flow.

Responding to these complaints, President Janelle Ashley issued a letter to the student body on the issue. The letter states that "Following a review of the traffic flow pattern instituted at the beginning of the semester, we have now determined that the congestion of pedestrian traffic exiting from the garage does not necessitate the roadway in front of the Admin Village to be **one way only**. Therefore, commencing on Tuesday, October 9th, the following traffic patterns will be in effect:

- Roadway will be open to two way traffic.
- Traffic in front of the Admin Village will be **two way** traffic
- The roadway/hill between the LRC and the garage will be two lanes and **ONE WAY**
- The left hand lane will be for the garage entrances and the right hand lane will lead up to the residence
- Exiting the campus may now be done so at **both** the North and South gates and will help to eliminate congestion at these points"

Let the man Speak

Thomas W. Marino III
Editor in Chief

Fidel Castro has come to the United States four times since coming to power in 1959, in February 1960 delivering a scathing speech at the United Nations against the United States. He has been protested and demonized, in many cases rightfully, and then the Castro show went home. The next day, the world was pretty much exactly the same as it was the day before. Nothing happened.

Nikita Khrushchev, leader of the "Evil Empire," gave a speech before the United Nations in September of 1960 that lasted over two hours and practically declared war on the entire institution of the U.N. Days later he interrupted proceedings with table banging, yelling and finger pointing. If you've never seen it, it's fantastic comedy. After the grandstanding was over, the Khrushchev show packed up and went home. The next day the sun did rise. Nope, nothing happened.

You can follow a similar pattern with Yassir Arafat in 1974 or Hugo Chavez in 2005. They came to the U.N.; people got upset; the speakers said words; some of it was grandstanding stupidity; they packed up their sideshow and left; the world carried on. Twice is a coincidence, three times is a pattern, four is a trend. All the big bad boogey men came and went home and no one got hurt. Sticks and stones…

President Ahmadinejad of Iran appeared at the U.N. on September 25 and the trend proved itself, but this boogey man had another stop on the agenda: Columbia University. The president of Columbia, Lee Bollinger had issued a formal request for the Iranian President to speak there. Ahmadinejad accepted and the hawks sharpened their nails.

When asked about his choice of speakers, Bollinger indicated that he would invite even Hitler to speak, if that was possible. The hawks descended, and for days Bollinger was beat to a pulp in the media for allegedly promulgating the rhetoric of the Iranian leader. When the event took place on September 24, Bollinger launched a lengthy diatribe against Ahmadinejad, closing with: "Today I feel all the weight of the modern civilized world yearning to express the revulsion at what you stand for. I only wish I could do better." Many critics considered Bollinger's opening statements a contrived attempt to resurrect his reputation.

Ahmadinejad spoke for some time, drawing laughter at the sheer stupidity of some of his comments, especially the now famous: "In Iran, we don't have homosexuals, like in your country."

If you take issue with or find fault in a person and/or what he stands for, you should encourage them to speak. Those who think Ahmadinejad represents a faulty ideology didn't need their own contrived outrage, they just needed to listen to the man prove them right.

Like it or not, Ahmadinejad was elected by millions of Iranians to a position in which he represents a country of 70 million people. He may very well be a horrible human being, but students, and Americans as a whole, can figure that out for themselves.

Lee Bollinger did what the leader of an academic institution should be expected to do; he gave his students the opportunity to see for themselves and make up their own minds. We don't need the "talking head" personalities who masquerade as journalists to tell us what to think, and we certainly don't need the government filtering information for our consumption. Lee Bollinger gave his students, and anyone else interested enough to tune into the live broadcast on the internet, a chance to hear it right from the horse's mouth.

Bollinger should be commended, not be made into yet another boogey man.

MASSPIRG Credit Card Petition

Thomas W. Marino III
Editor-in-Chief

The Massachusetts Public Interest Research Group (MASSPIRG) lobbied students on October 11, to support campus policies against credit card vendors who use what WSC MASSPIRG leader Andrew Shea called "unfair practices and penalty fees that take advantage of consumers." Shea added, "It's hard to be on campus and not see a credit card flyer hawking a 0% teaser rate, or running into a vendor."

Handing out lollipops which had "Don't Be A Sucker" written across the packaging, Shea and WSC junior Justin Gaucher gathered signatures for support of responsible credit card marketing practices in hopes that they will be adopted by the college.

MASSPIRG launched a new campaign website filled with more information about credit card industry practices at www.truthaboutcredit.org.

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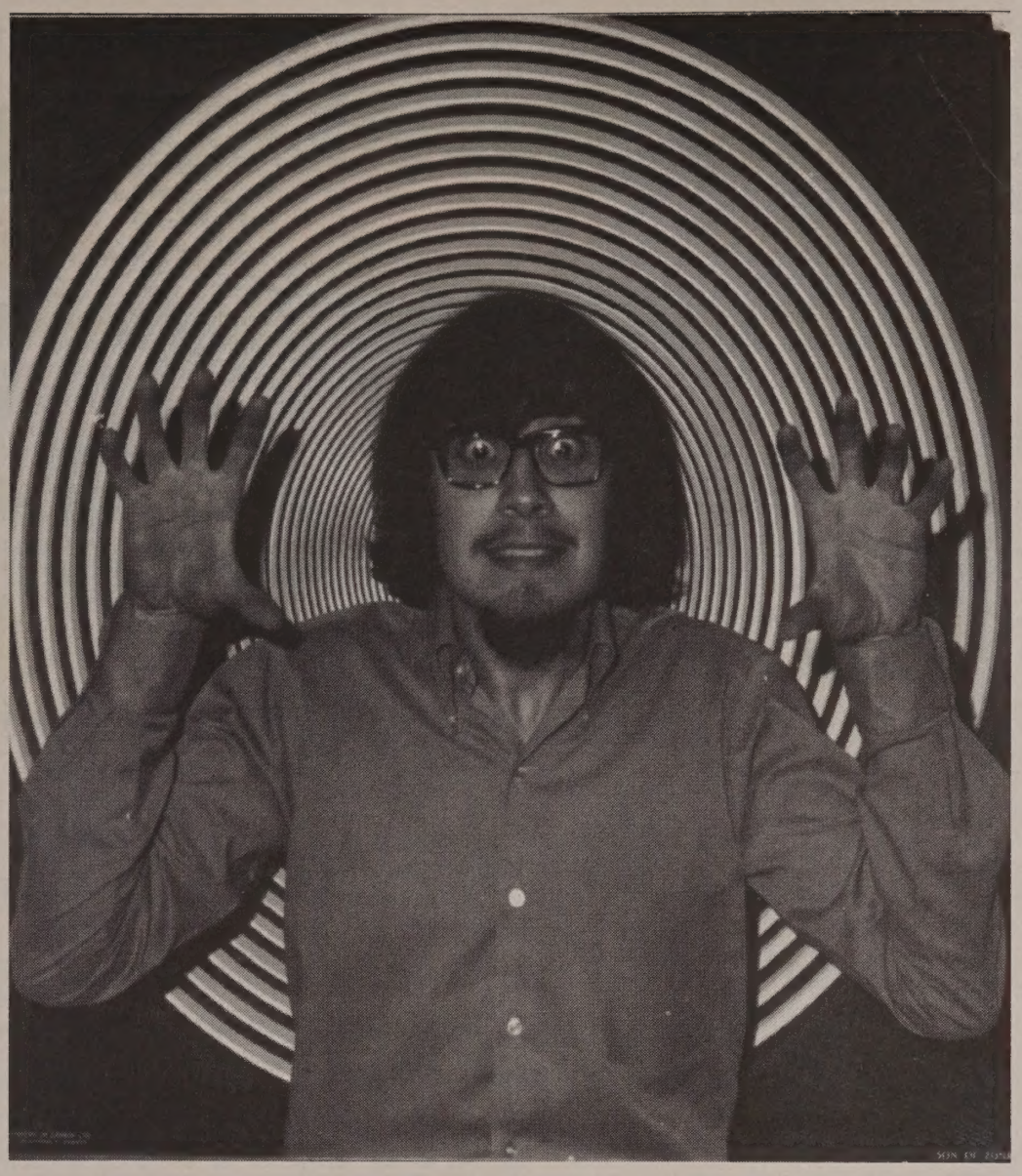

Are You a Beauty or a Geek?

What do you think is more important, being beautiful or intelligent?

The answer isn't as easy as you might think. Those of you who would choose beauty probably take care of your own appearance and believe that physical attraction is essential in a relationship. This is true to a certain extent. If you aren't at least a little attracted to your significant other then you are basically just hanging out with your friend. Whereas you who choose brains over beauty truly feel that physical appearance should be extra; or you don't want to be perceived as shallow. If there's nothing beyond mutual attraction, then the relationship probably isn't going to last long. Generally a person's appearance is the first thing that you notice. However, if they don't have anything to back up their looks you lose interest.

The media has been a contributing factor in people's perception of what makes a beautiful person, and/or an intelligent person. Someone who is considered a typical beauty is stereotyped as nothing more than that. They are thought to have no opinions when it comes to politics or world affairs and only read fashion or sports magazines. If you find yourself in this category, my advice would be to read the paper or to watch the news. This will give you something to discuss other than Britney Spears's latest mishap or what television show was on the other night. Don't just rely on your looks to get you by. Most people won't care if you got a cute new hair cut or if you have six- pack.

On the other hand; someone who is intelligent, or a geek, is usually thought of as plain and socially awkward. They are book smart and have opinions but lack confidence and physical attractiveness. If you fit into this category my suggestion to you is not to imitate actors or models; just try to look like the best version of yourself. Confidence makes people more attractive so don't be afraid to involve yourself in more activities inside and outside of school. Small changes like this make a difference in how others view you.

After asking someone of the students at Worcester State, I've learned that people struggle with choosing one over the other. This is mostly because they were either afraid that they would appear shallow or that choosing intelligence would imply that they aren't attractive. I gave sixteen random students anonymous ballots hoping to receive more honest answers. The results were the same for each gender; seven votes each for brains and one vote each for beauty. This would indicate that intelligence is more important, at least for the students at Worcester State. However, it was a small sample, not showing the whole schools opinion and I still cannot be sure if the answers were honest. Can you answer for yourself now what's more important? It's a double-edged sword, no matter how you answer it, it could be considered wrong. People seem to want the whole package, brains and beauty.

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Student Activities Calendar

October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Alternative Spring Break Meeting @ 2:30pm Sullivan 220	3 SEC & SC/SA Lecture: Inside Iraq, 11:30am-1:30, BL	4 Commuter Services & CAB: Commuter Coffee Hour, 9-11am Sullivan Commons	5	6 Campus Ambassadors Movie Night, 8pm Campus Ministry House
7	8 Columbus Day No Classes	9 TWA Salsa Dancing Lessons	10 SEC Comedian: Barron Vaughn 8:30pm, BL	11	12 SC/SA Smores & Cider, Dowden Quad 8 -10pm	13 CA Game Night, 8-10pm Campus Ministry House
14 Catholic Mass, 6pm Dowden Hall Lounge	15	16 SC/SA Diversity Lecture: Dave Pallone 11:30am, BL SEC Psychic Fair, 10-2, EA TWA Salsa Lessons 6-9pm, SHL	17 SEC: Ghost Hunter, 8pm N/S	18	19 Sibling Sleepover, 6pm, SHL Hall Of Fame Dinner, 6pm, BL Sibling Sleepover & SEC Movie: Harry Potter 5, 8:30pm, SHL Video Game Tourney, 9pm N/S (Spon by Surreal Games)	20 Family Weekend & President Brunch: 11am-1pm, BL Family Activities: 2-5pm, Gym Lot Football vs. Mass Maritime, 4pm (fireworks immediately after game) Family Feud Gameshow, 8pm, BL (Spon by: Class Officers)
21 Sr Capping, 2pm, EA Sr. Reception, Café (Immediately following capping) Catholic Mass, 6pm DHL	22	23 TWA Salsa Lessons 6-9pm, SHL	24 SEC Hump Day Harmony: Holiday, 8:30pm, OLP	25 Scary Halloween Movie Marathon 3:30pm-Horror Lecture 4:00pm: Movie 5:30pm Free Dinner OLP	26 Commuter Services: Game Night, Living Room 8-10pm	27 CA Prayer Night, Ministry House, 8pm
28 SC/SA Movie: & Pumpkin Carving SHL, 2pm Catholic Mass, 6pm, DHL	29 SEC Movie: Harry Potter & the Order of the Phoenix, 7pm, SHL	30 SEC Movie: Harry Potter & the Order of the Phoenix, 1pm, OLP TWA Salsa Lessons 6-9pm, SHL	31 HALLOWEEN Party Living Room, 11-2			

Family/Homecoming Weekend

BL: Blue Lounge
OLP: One Lancer Place
N/S: North/South Auditorium
ST: Science & Tech
DHL: Dowden Hall

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-Benjamin Franklin

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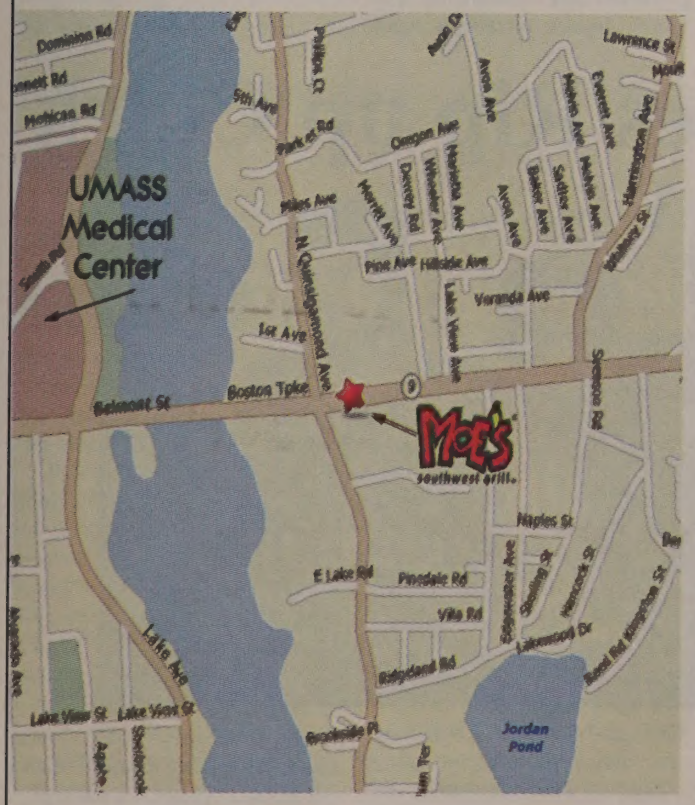

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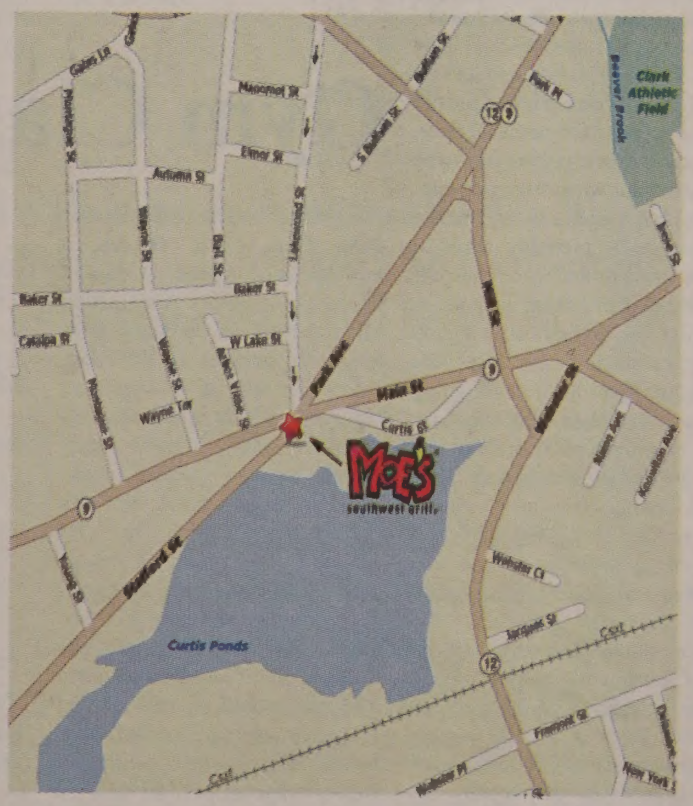

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Words From the Bottom of the Barrell

(note: this didn't actually happen)

This year Nashoba Regional High School decided to do something special for 2007 commencement ceremony. Instead of having the Salutatorian and the Valedictorian parade in front of the class this year, why not share some of the glory with the opposite end of the scale, by giving kids from 98th percentile a chance to share their thoughts, wisdom, and ambitions? Sure, they may not be master orators whose words embrace the eloquence and rhetoric we have all come to expect from the usual pretentious, haughty overachiever who quotes Churchill to us, inebriated on his/her own inflated ego. But wouldn't we all enjoy the ceremony better with a little less pomp and a little more circumstance?

"Umm, good evening, ladies and gentlemen, to Nashoba's 2011, um, sorry, 2007 Graduation Ceremony. Whoa, you know you're really stoned when you start to lose track of what year it is…Did I just say that aloud? Oh, umm, well, I would just like to say that it is an honor and a pleasure to be here tonight. When Mr. Howard came to me in shop class and said how would you like to write a speech for this year's ceremony thing, I said "Hey man, what's in it for me? I'm already in three study halls, conversational English, Home Ec. and shop class. I was afraid I'd be spreading myself too thin, but as Americans, it is our duty to rise to the occasion . So I said, I'll do it, and here I am. Eleanor Roosevelt once said, "If you don't get off your butt and make something of yourself, you deserve to be shot." So, you might be thinking, what are my asp-asp, ir, how do you say that word? Aspirations? Thanks Mrs. T. Well I'm going to let you in on a something that I've picked up these past few nanoseconds, err, years. Not everyone gets to be an Astronaut when they grow up. Yeah, that's right, all you Lexus driving snobs, probably itchin' to come up here and knock me off the stage; I'm talking to you. A guy like me, and probably a good forty percent of the graduates here probably don't have much going for us other than the following: A.) employment at a dead end job B.) getting knocked up, yeah I'm looking at you Courtney, C.) welfare D.) drug addiction E). being someone's pimp at a correctional facility. What comes after E.)? Oh whatever. You get my point. The only way our society can work, and by work, I mean let the rich continue to live as they do, is if a large number of proletariats submit to the rules and regulations that society has imposed upon them. The farmer is nothing without the horse to ploy his fields. The weakest link breaks the whole chain. Friends, family, I was asked to stand before you here tonight as a joke, but whether or not you care to look beyond the joke and see a lesson to be learned is up to you. I am not up here to try to deliver as comparable a speech as our valedictorian could, not for one month could anyone have thought that when they asked me here in Leonard's stead. I am humbly up here before you all to ask that you remember me, and those like me. We may not all be able to achieve greatness, and barely catch of glimpse of it as it passes us by, but with out the cogs, or a solid foundation, there would be no greatness achieved by anyone.

Up until now, we have all basically traveled the same path, but that's about to change. Some of you already know where you're going. You have a map, AAA (Triple A) and Daddy's paying for your gas money. Or maybe you don't know where you're going and end up on a dirt path that is riddled with pot holes, poisonous snakes, hobos, and to top it all off, is really an old go cart track, which smells like cat pee.

Class of 1918, I wish you all the best. Those of you that can, go get your master and doctorate degrees! As for the rest of you, you'll have to be content with degrees of the first, second and third variety. Those of you who have worked in the fast food industry know what I'm talking about.

In freshman orientation someone once told me to, "...sit down, shut up and you'll be out of here in four years". It took me 6 and a half, but nonetheless it was good advice. I probably could have gone eight if I hadn't heard it, so I'll leave the younger generation with that. Thanks for your time everyone. Nashoba Rules! Goooooo Sea Captains! (Actually Nashoba is home to the Chieftans).

Peony in Love: A Review

Amanda Bruso
Staff Writer
Peony in Love

Lisa See's "Peony in Love" takes you into a world of hope, unrequited love, hatred, sorrow, and discovery; all contained behind the doors of the women's chambers. This is where Peony, an unmarried maiden of relatively good standing lives her short life. The book begins at the opening of the celebration of double seven; the seventh day of the seventh month of the year. Peony is getting to see something that few girls, or even women, ever get to see. Her father has conspired with a small troupe of actors to perform the opera "The Peony Pavilion" in their very own home. For three days, Peony is to live her dream for three nights – she is obsessed with the opera and owns eleven of thirteen available copies of it. It is during this time that she meets her own poet, somewhat like the one in the opera. After this meeting, she becomes lovesick; she wastes away by refusing to eat, and writing sorrowful poetry. She dies, and that is where the real story begins. She goes on, as a ghost, to follow her betrothed and see to it that he is happy.

See, as in her popular book "Snow Flower and the Secret Fan," uses her knowledge of Chinese customs and rules, as well as the history of women in China to paint a picture that the reader cannot help but be drawn into. Having extensive knowledge about things such as foot binding, and honoring ancestors properly allows her the freedom to expand on these topics and weave them flawlessly into her story amongst the main character's feelings and viewpoint. On page 44, See gives us an example of a Chinese custom described and defined, and then related to the character, "The written character for mother love is composed of two elements: love and pain. I had always thought this emotion was felt by daughters for their mothers, who inflict pain on us by binding our feet, but looking at Second Aunt's tears and my mother's courage I realized this emotion was for them."

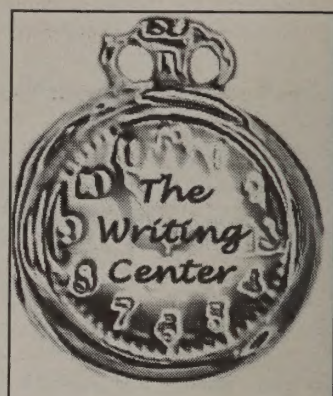
Sorrow and lovesickness are large parts of the story. They lead to Peony's death, and the events that cause her to become a ghost. See crafts a number of tasty little snippets of poetry that express depths of sorrow beyond what a young woman should ever experience. One of them, on page 49, written by someone very close to Peony, weaves its way throughout the historical recount of the Manchu invasion, to relate to Peony during her afterlife as she follows her husband.

"The trees are bare.
In the distance, the honks of mourning geese.
If only my tears of blood could dye red the blossoms of the plum tree.
But I will never make it to spring.
My heart is empty and my life has no value anymore.
Each moment a thousand tears."

One of the few negative comments one could make about the book is that after Peony's death, the book also becomes insubstantial, sometimes confusing. Peony becomes less colorful as a character, and fades more to shades of grey, as she only develops very slowly. This could be related to the fact that she is a ghost, and as such, no longer has the color of life.

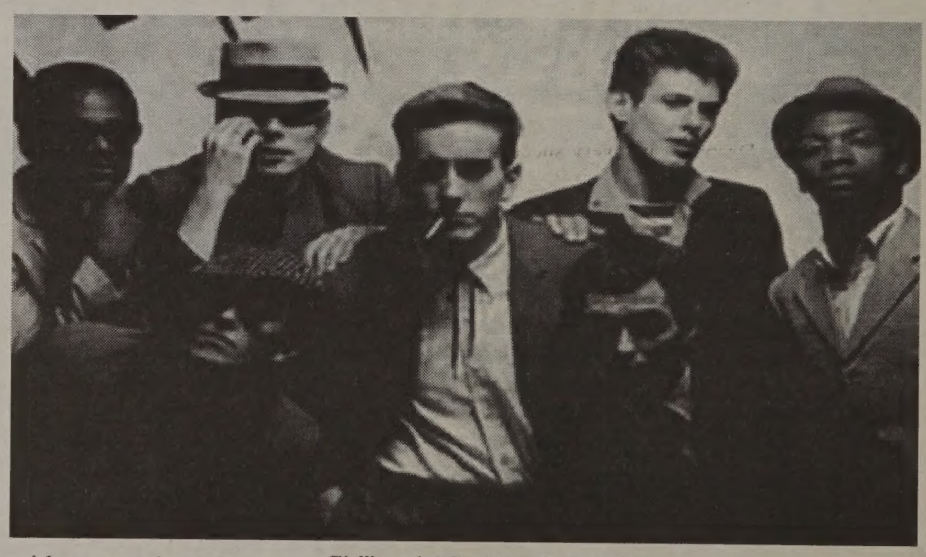
Overall, Lisa See weaves a wonderfully entertaining story like a master craftsman would weave an intricate tapestry. It draws you in from the very beginning, much like "Snow Flower," and keeps your attention by using two separate climaxes indicated the end of Peony's life, and the end of her afterlife. While the first climax centers on Peony's internal conflicts over marriage and love of a man she thinks she can never have, the second involves outside influences and another spirit.

I also recommend that you read Lisa See's other novels, including "Snow Flower and the Secret Fan," and "Flower Net."



Do you want to improve your writing? Come to the Writing Center! The center offers peer tutoring, writing resources, workshops, and more. It is located in Sullivan 302. Hours are Monday-Thursday 9-3, Friday 9-1, and Monday and Wednesday nights from 5-8. Call 929-8112 to make an appointment or just stop by. Be sure to check out the website at www.worcester.edu/owl

Gym Class Heroes Rip up Clark



On Tuesday, September 25th, Gym Class Heroes, a hip-hop band, made a stop at Clark University. Anticipation filled the air as the lines grew longer to entrance of the show. Doors opened at 7:00pm and the gym quickly filled up with anxious college students ready to jam to their favorite music.

The night started off with performances from by DJ Abilities. He offered a unique show, but a majority of the crowd seemed bored with his selections. He had the crowd dancing at one moment and then all of a sudden everyone would be still, hoping his next selection would offer better beats. Another opening act followed known as "The Pack", a group of talented young rappers. They pumped up the crowd with their rendition of the popular song "Crank that Soulja Boy". They pranced around the stage, trying to captivate the audience with their dance moves. They tried to get the audience involved by singing along, even though most of the crowd did not know the words.

Finally, Gym Class Heroes slowly walked onto the stage. The girls screamed and the guys jeered; excitement filled the air. Everyone was trampling each other to get as close to the stage as possible, even if it meant elbowing and punching their neighbors. Travis McCoy, lead singer, sang popular favorites such as "Make Out Club", "Taxi Driver", and "Papercuts", from the album "The Papercut Chronicles". During the middle of the show, McCoy brought one lucky girl onto the stage and serenaded the songs "Beautiful Girl" and "Cupid's Chokehold", as they danced on stage.

The crowd thought that the show ended, but in a couple of minutes the band started playing their newest hit, "Clothes Off". McCoy decided he'd roam throughout the audience while performing. He walked amongst the fans, giving the back of the audience a chance to be closer to him.

The show was a hit and every college student left the gym enthused and pleased with their performance. Mel Plant, a student from Worcester State College said, "I just liked the performance in general. They did a really good job and got the audience involved with their songs which I think always makes it better. They are a great band with great songs! I had tons of fun!" The $10 ticket was not a waste as all. Try to catch this great band next time they are around the area or anther college.

Castro
(continued from first page)

now?

Alina Fernandez Revuelta: (Passionately) More than anything I want to see Democracy in Cuba. I want to see the power in the hands of the people. Eventually I think they will find a way to when the Castro name is removed from power.

Q: There have been a lot of rumors circulating that your father has died. Do you have any inside sources?

Alina Fernandez Revuelta: Yes those rumors are everywhere but, the truth is no one knows. The institution keeps everything so quiet. Only very few know what's exactly going on and they are under strict orders to keep silent.

Q: So you haven't heard anything from your family in Cuba of his health?

Alina Fernandez Revuelta: You know it's sad because I really don't have any contact with them. Once you stand against the beliefs of my father everyone, the whole country turns against you, even your own blood.

Q: Seeing your country change so much was what led ultimately to your leaving it. What was going through your mind when you stepped on to that plane in disguise as a tourist?

Alina Fernandez Revuelta: Scary, but, it's like Las Vegas in this country. If you are never willing to take a risk you will never know the outcome of it. It's like a 50/50 chance; looking back I am glad I did it though.

Q: Since leaving Cuba do you ever miss your early days as a model?

Alina Fernandez Revuelta: Oh sure I do, it was one big adventure for me (laughs). Three days a week we would do runway fashion shows in an old warehouse; there were twenty-something of us. It was a lot less rich than the shows in America of course but, it was a lot of fun at the time.

Q: It was from your own experience modeling which you wrote the book A Leaf of Lettuce addressing issues such as your own struggle with anorexia. Is this something you still deal with today?

Alina Fernandez Revuelta: (Turning serious) I am fine now. I wrote the book for Spain because it is such a big problem in that country. You hear the stories of models starving themselves to death more and more lately. It's all around us though, the pressure to be thin, in the magazines we read, on the television. Being underweight has become part of the career.

Q: Your other book has come under fire from your own family including a lawsuit filed from your Aunt saying its purpose is to defame your family. Was that your intention?

Alina Fernandez Revuelta: I spoke the truth. I was completely honest in my book. If I hurt people in the process then that is what had to happen to get the truth in the open.

Q: Is there anything you have always wanted to do but never had the chance?

Alina Fernandez Revuelta: (Pause) Well I was half way through my medical career. I had this aspiration to be a doctor. There were circumstances that came up, you know?
The baby kind of changed everything. I think I will leave that dream to the younger generation.

Montgomery: Thank you for speaking so frankly Alina it was a pleasure to have you visit Worcester State College and share your story.

Alina Fernandez Revuelta: Well, it is a great college and I enjoyed visiting there. Thank you for having me.

Finally, Something Good On!

Chrissy Kenney
Layout Editor

Lancer Vision Television starts off this year full-force, with an image of success in mind. Despite losing some of its key members due to graduation, the school's organization has gained a highly qualified new E-board, as well as some ready-to-learn newcomers.

Returning to this year's programming will be the witty, yet informative, talk-show and improvisational routines of "Happy Hour," still airing during the Tuesday, 8:00 p.m., time slot. Taking the veteran place of alumni student Steven Boudreau for the show, freshman Brianna Sasso is sure to put a nice breath of fresh air on the "bartender" role she has attained.

Also leaving his standard role on the show as the male host, Craig Tiffany has opted to fully devote his time to his position as president of the organization, leaving freshmen Ray Gonzales to eagerly fill in alongside last year's female host, Bethany Morrill. Shaelyn Landanno, Nathan Yelle, Chaz Klemba, and Stephanie "Tilly" Tilburg will be performing as the improvisational crew, all of which are freshmen. Kevin Stuart, last year's president as well as co-founder of LVTV, thinks that the new "Happy Hour" will be "very successful. It is already better than what we did last year, and last year's was good."

Along with showing eight movies a month, also added to the schedule for LVTV is a new program. "Woo Sports" is an ESPN-modeled talk show discussing the newest major happenings in sports on and off campus, airing on Thursdays at 8:00 p.m. Trying out this new concept of a show are hosts Craig Tiffany and Michael Lambias.

Advisors Tom White and Julian Berrian have high hopes for the organization during this year. White states, "This is a growing year. We are going to up our programming and try and get involved in the community activity." With such a thriving new cast and growing organization, there is only one way to see if the station will live up to its hopeful expectations. Tune into channel eleven on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 8:00 p.m. to judge for yourself!

LVTV October Schedule

Monday Oct. 15
9:00 House of 1,000 Corpses
12:00 Woo Sports
12:30 Knocked Up
3:00 The Number 23
6:00 Bug

Tuesday Oct. 16
9:00 The Condemned
12:00 House of 1,000 Corpses
2:00 Happy Hour
3:00 The Devil's Rejects
6:00 The Decent
8:00 Woo Sports
12:30 The Number 23

Wednesday Oct. 17
9:00 The Decent
12:00 Woo Sports
12:30 Number 23
2:00 Bug
4:00 House of 1,000 Corpses
6:00 Knocked Up

Thursday Oct. 18
9:00 The Condemned
12:00 House of 1,000 Corpses
2:00 Happy Hour
3:00 The Devil's Rejects
6:00 The Decent
8:00 Woo Sports

Friday Oct. 19
9:00 The Devil's Rejects
12:00 The Condemned
8:00 House of 1,000 Corpses
5:00 The Decent

Monday Oct. 22
9:00 The Decent
12:00 Happy Hour
1:00 The Devil's Rejects
3:00 House of 1,000 Corpses
6:00 The Number 23

Tuesday Oct. 23
9:00 The Condemned
12:00 House of 1,000 Corpses
2:00 Happy Hour
3:00 The Devil's Rejects
6:00 The Decent
8:00Happy Hour
8:30 Knocked Up

Wednesday Oct. 24
9:00 The Decent
12:00 Woo Sports
12:30 The Number 23
2:00 Bug
4:00 The Condemned

Thursday Oct. 25
9:00- House of 1,000 Corpses
12:00 Woo Sports
12:30- Knocked Up
3:00 The Number 23
6:00 Bug
8:00 Woo Sports
8:30 The Decent

Friday Oct. 26
9:00 The Condemned
12:00- House of 1,000 Corpses
2:00 Happy Hour
3:00 The Devil's Rejects
5:00 The Decent

Monday Oct. 29
9:00- The Decent
12:00- Happy Hour
1:00 The Devil's Rejects
3:00 House of 1,000 Corpses
6:00 House of 1,000 Corpses

Tuesday Oct. 30
9:00 The Condemned
12:00 House of 1,000 Corpses
2:00 Happy Hour
3:00 The Devil's Rejects
6:00 The Decent
8:00 Happy Hour
8:30 Knocked Up

Wednesday Oct 31
9:00 The Decent
12:00 Happy Hour
1:00 The Number 23
3:00 Bug
5:00 House of 1,000 Corpses
7:00 Knocked Up

POLICE LOGS

September 1st to September 30th

9/1/2007
8:15 PM
a student called ...WSC Police ...to see if we might have found an IPOD....The student lost it yesterday....Its the old style/color black

9/2/2007
3:25 AM
unit 33 receive a noise complaint 2nd floor DH, Students were advised to calm down or go to their rooms. they agreed to disperse.

11:25 AM
dispatch recieved a call from the athletic trainor.....bus carrying the football team broke down on rt 128....bus arrived at 12:25 with .5 of the players...the driver headed back for the rest.

4:00 PM
Ma Reg 46SJ10 (Green Ford Taurus) is parked in the Dowden Hall lot and will be moved by 11pm tonight. Units 14,31, spoke with the roomate of this vehicle.

9/3/2007
8:30 AM
Assisted RD with removal of overnight visitors from Dowden hall.

9/4/2007
7:50 PM
units 31 and 14 responded to ....2 individuals seen by facilities.. in the elevator of the parking garage.....they were commuters looking at the new garage....all clear.

9/5/2007
9:45 PM
student inquired about keys that were lost tonight...WSC keychain w/jeep key and 2 room keys on it....nothing turned in at the moment.

9/7/2007
12:50 AM
unit 33 ...intervened, while a couple were arguing at cv 15-1..unit 33 will monitor.... both parties stated they are done arguing for the night.

8:15 PM
units 19 and 23 responded to assist chartwell employees.....electric vehicle carrying supplies broke down...maintainers assisted.... pushed the vehicle into the 1st floor of the parking garage for the evening.

9/8/2007
2:20 AM
student from wasylean.502c... requested assistance with a cut finger ....resident jammed it in a car door....used first aid\ kit... dispatch suggested if she needs more assistance to let us know.

6:50 PM
units 23 and 19 patrolled campus and assisted with traffic....from the spectators and players of football game....the one way had to be utilized ...because of conjestion of motor vehicles and the athletes bus.

9/11/2007
3:30 PM
Unit 19 reponded to CV 1-1 for a problem with Main door. Problem is with door itself, lock is working. Maintenance notified.

9/13/2007
8:45 PM
unit 19.....noticed....telephone closet on 1st flr or dowden hall...is unlocked and off track... work order has been written by dispatch.

9:10 PM
a professor dropped off...found cell phone in lower campus parking lot..... to the police office...owner of cell phone ...has been notified.

9:35 PM
unit 19 responded to ....smoke detector alarm....CV 18-3....burnt pizza...all clear.

11:00 PM
unit 21 partially secured the parking garage...one vehicle remaining....left one exit door open.....update/patrolled at 12:30am vehicle is still there..... update/ 1:25am vehicle is still there.

9/15/2007
1:55 AM
unit 15 notified dispatch...ma reg#57LB56....vehicle windows are open and its raining....dispatch notified RA's ...to knock on the residents door and....inform the resident.

9/16/2007
2:45 PM
Officer 18 responded to a fire alarm in Wasylean Hall room 510. Cooking sausage on a dirty burner. All clear and alarm reset.

5:28 PM
removed kids from S&T bldg. playing soccer on the grass.

9/18/2007
9:57 AM
A student reported hitting a parked car while trying to park his car.

9/19/2007
11:25 PM
unit 31 stated ...5 males kicking soccer ball...which is hitting vehicles...unit 15 requested they play ....in an area without parked vehicles.

9/20/2007
6:15 PM
Student twisted knee while in dance class. Transported to health services to be checked out. 1915 23 escorted student back to Dowden hall.

6:45 PM
a call from the student center smell of gas in the area of the Foster room. Checked out food services have function using burners.

9/21/2007
10:00 PM
student stated....a silver sedan.. plate unknown...with 2 male indivduals....driver w/braided hair....whistled and asked her to come in their vehicle.....unit 23... checked campus....no vehicle or individuals of stated description found.

9/22/2007
1:45 PM
unit 17 received a call from a neigbor complaining that the on field music was too loud. He spoke w/ coach Baker who turned the music down.

9/23/2007
8:45 AM
Officers 17 and 18 tried to turn off all lights in garage. Unsuccessful in the 2nd, 3rd and 4th floors. Stairwell lights are off. Email sent to proper personal to rectify problem.

5:25 PM
A student called to report his room was broken into over the weekend. He said the room was trashed and his computer was stolen. See report

9:40 PM
Patrolman #15 and #23 investigated a complaint of marijuana odor coming from Chandler Village 11-1B.

9/25/2007
7:51 AM
unit 16 recieved call from wsc resident student about stolen laptop traced on computrace: student forwarded info to day shift lt

9/27/2007
5:00 AM
parents of a nonstudent asked police to check a room to try and locate their daughter. units 33, 24 & 21 checked the location. no one was home. informed parents.

9/29/2007
12:00 AM
RA's requested assistance... unit 18 responded...a wasylean resident ...was an unwanted guest in Dowden hall rm 247...Officer requested wasylean resident to return to his own residence.

9/30/2007
1:45 AM
unit 33 ...interceded with an argument between ... a male and female..outside of Wasylean hall.....see report.

Lady Lancers Beat Keene State

The Worcester State Women's Soccer team pulls a victory over Keene State winning 3-0. The Keene State Women' soccer team put up a good fight, but they could not compare to Worcester's well-organized plays, and tough defense.

Worcester State started off on a good note with the only goal in the first half. The co-captain, Lauren Cush of Hudson, Massachusetts, kicked a 25 yard shot into the opposing net, then giving them the lead 1-0. The swift moves of Junior, Katelyn Bonetti of Plymouth, MA aided her in having an outstanding game when she scored the next two goals in the 53rd and 63rd minute marks.

The crowd felt tension during the last three minutes of the game, as Keene State struggled to keep up with Woo State. Keene tried to throw some punches, but that did not slow down our girls. Erin Doherty (Uxbridge, MA) did not let one ball slip, even during the last minutes of the game when Keene tried their best to score. She stopped three balls for the Lancers, while Keene State's keeper, Samantha Hirsh, made five saves.

The Lancers, now 6-4, will host MCLA, on October 6th; while Keene State, now with a record of 6-5-1, will host Rhode Island College.

Should WSC Campus Police carry firearms?

Voice your opinion on this topic. there are 2 ways to do this:

1. Contact your Student Trustee, Brandon Huggon. You can email him at bhuggon@worcester.edu or visit his office in the Stucent Center Living room. (office hours posted on door)

or

2. Come to the Trustee meeting this thursday, October 18, at 3:00 in the Foster Room. (third floor of student center). Both the president and chief of police will be there answering questions about the proposal.

Police Logs for October 1st to October 15th

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Review of the movie "30 Days of Night"

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Coast Guard beats State at Homecoming

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The Student Voice

The Official Paper of Worcester State College

Monday, October 29, 2007

Volume 3, Number 2

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Ghostbusters On Campus

Alleged Ghost Sighting

Megan Motgomery
Managing Editor

The latest student organization to be introduced at Worcester State College is sure to leave you with a case of shivers. Paranormal Science Investigators (abbreviated PSI) started off its first meeting with a ghost hunt on campus under the guidance of Chris Moon, a paranormal investigator and founder of Haunted Times Magazine. What started out as a simple Halloween themed event quickly mounted into a full on ghost expedition as the PSI's found themselves in the midst of a number of puzzling occurrences.

With the use of a mysterious item termed 'Frank's Box', a device invented by the great Benjamin Franklin supposedly used to communicate with the dead, the PSIs toured the campus in an attempt to pick up any white noise.

How Frank's Box works is an intriguing phenomenon in itself. Radio transmission is supposed to tune in to frequencies of another dimension providing instant connection with the beyond. While many are highly skeptical as to the accuracy of this bizarre box, the findings on campus were startling.

According to those who reside there, there are constant reports of a haunting in Chandler Village. Items were being knocked over for no explainable reason, and running was heard up and down the stairs -- but no one was present. Using Frank's Box, Moon and the other PSI investigators deciphered a message left from a forum who calls herself Emma. She appears to be a caring spirit who is staying for 3 months time and tells those around her that she loves them. Research is being conducted as to the history of Chandler Village and the case remains open for further investigation.

Another area in which there could be possible evidence of the beyond is the theatre in the Sullivan Building. The message delivered in repetitive screams was, "Get the children out." Examination of Worcester State College's historical past revealed that the property was formerly a farm, at which a fire occurred before being torn down. The nature of this case presents itself as a residual haunting -- meaning it occurs time and time again. Oftentimes, energies become trapped in areas of performing arts due to the strong emotion projected on the stage during an actor's life.

President and founder of PSI, Christopher Hoey has had more than one meeting with unexplained forces. While on a trip to the Salem Witch Museum he began to feel a needle-like sensation going into his back during a seminar on witchcraft. Afterwards he had friends examine him and, to their horror, the word 'don't' was formed in scratches. After this eerie experience, Hoey became a convinced believer in the paranormal.

Those interested in entertaining their inner ghost buster will be pleased to know that the space for PSI treasurer is unoccupied.

Ghost, Page 6

The Horrors of Registration

Jacqueline Morrill
Staff Writer

Nightmare on Chandler Street: Class Registration The days of pre-registration *and* general registration are upon us. For about ten days the students of Worcester State College will transform themselves into various frightening creatures. Some become flesh eating beasts, ready and willing to attack those who cut the line leading to the holy grounds of the Registrar. Others become loitering zombies, only half conscious while waiting for hours on end in the gym building. It's rumored they can hear the heartbeats of those inside, those few who are able to fill their schedules with the necessary classes. And still, others become werewolf-like, rabid with rage as they flee the scene, howling and cursing because they are too late.

It's true: for many Worcester State Students, registration is the bane of one's existence. It is a day (or days, if you're really unlucky) of impatiently waiting in lines, trying to organize alternative schedules, and frustration whilst arguing with the gatekeepers to scheduling paradise (yes, registrar recruits, that's you). They are the people who decide which classes you may or may not get into, and similar to what they say in the restaurant business, do not mess with those people who prepare your class schedule If you do, brace yourself for one hell of a long semester.

Many horror movies cannot compare to the shocking student tales involving registration. One first semester senior was denied any of her science classes (not to mention it was only the first of four that needed to be completed in order to graduate). Another student's schedule was nearly finished online (a highly promoted medium by the registrar's office) when suddenly, the server crashed. Yet another student still holds a grudge against the registrar when a year before, she walked out in the middle of general registration after one employee rudely stated, "It's not my problem that you can't get into any of your classes, it's yours!" Another student

Registration, Page 6

Cops firing guns

WSC Gun Policy: Locked and Loaded

Amber Boivin
Staff Writer

"Our world has changed very drastically in the past few years," states President Janelle Ashley on the eighteenth of October in the Foster Room. She continues with, "arming our college is a very serious decision" and that a "great deal of research and discussion" have gone into the proposal. She states that even before the tragedy at Virginia Tech, they were looking over safety procedures.

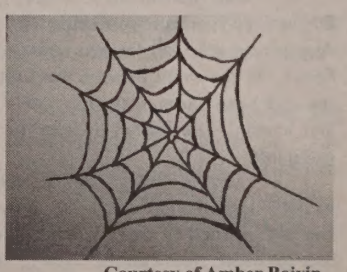
A "mock drill" was facilitated with over 20 faculty members to better examine the school's capability in responding to a critical incident in a timely manner. "The response time for MA State Police," states President Ashley, "is 20-30 minutes to get to campus for a call, and Worcester Police is 15-20 minutes." Chief Rosemary Naughton, a 20-year police veteran and WSC officer for seven years, expressed in her speech, the need to arm our police department.

Naughton states that "yes, it's a weapon, it's a tool of the profession," and that the "weapons will not leave college property, and will remain in a locked locker within the office." An attendant at the meeting askedd if there had been any situation where firearms would have been of assistance, and Naughton replied with a vague example of receiving information last spring regarding a young man allegedly in possession of a firearm on campus when Worcester Police were called in to evaluate and contain the situation.

Many people have expressed fear of safety from campus police possibly having accidents. Chief Naughton states that she has "the utmost faith in our department," and that "our officers all have received psychological evaluations and passed." "They are not trained shoot to kill, they are trained shoot to stop, and only when life safety is imminent--as a last resort." In the executive summary of the sidearm proposal, handed out at the beginning of the forum meeting, it included the local colleges that are armed, as well as the state colleges where the campus police carry firearms.

The handout also gives a list of advantages to arming the police officers including, "Campus police officers are currently responsible for the full range of police services, including responding to violent situations."

They are real officers and society has expectations that real police officers are armed and unarmed officers are security only. As well as listing the advantages to arming the officers, it also lists that in addition to their present training, prior to being armed, each officer would receive "additional psychological assessment, firearm training, be required to complete a training program on decision making and weapon retention." Lastly, it states that "Fully equipping the Worcester State College Campus Police will enable them to respond and contain critical incidents while extending the capability of better protecting themselves and members of the campus community."



Courtesy of Amber Boivin

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THE VOICE

Worcester State College's Student Newspaper

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Corrections- We apologize for our oversight in the October 15 edition. The following authors wrote the following stories:

Lady Lancers Beat Keene State by Liz Malone
Gym Class Heroes Rip up Clark by Liz Malone
Are You a Beauty or a Geek by Joanna Good

The Student Vice of Worcester State College

The Student Voice is an independent news magazine published throughout the school year with funds procured through advertising and provided by the Student Government Association of Worcester State College, 486 Chandler St., Worcester, MA 01602. The news magazine is published every other Tuesday and is printed by Turley Publications. The Student Voice is serviced for national advertising by Cass Communications and is listed in Oxbridge Communication, Inc.'s Directory of College Student Press in America. The Student Voice takes no responsibility for unsolicited material or manuscripts submitted.

The Student Voice welcomes letters, essays, and articles provided they are typed and are submitted with a name and means to contact the author. Any pieces that are deemed questionable are brought before the executive board. In the event of a tie the Editor-in-Chief has final decision. Letters run at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief and are subject to editing for style and length. The Editor reserves the right to republish any works at their discretion.

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From the Desk of: The Editor in Chief

As most of campus is now readily aware, the president of Worcester State College, Dr. Janelle Ashley, has proposed a plan to issue side arms to campus police. Rosemary Naughton, the Campus Police Chief, has had an active role in speaking out on behalf of the proposal. There is no reason to doubt the intentions of either of these women in putting forth this proposal; they believe it in the best interest of the students and faculty. It is not the sincerity of their intentions or the integrity of their positions which elicits question, but their conclusions based on the available information.

The question the student body should be asking is very simple; how often do police officers -- whether on college campuses and in the wider public arena -- misuse their weapons? One would think this would be an easy question to find an answer to, seeing as local, state and federal government both tracks and produces statistics on a multitude of crimes and breaks those very statistics down by every possible scenario, including race and gender of both victims and culprits. Unfortunately, there is no easy answer to this very basic question about the misuse of authority because those statistics aren't available from any governmental authority.

In May 2006, the United Nations issued a report condemning the lack of a national effort to track cases of excessive force cases, while stating "use of excessive force by law enforcement officers against unarmed individuals, often leading to death or serious injury, remains endemic across the U.S." The report goes on to say that "investigations at the local and state level are often conducted by the very same law enforcement agencies which employ the officers responsible for acts of torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, or by civilian review agencies with little or no authority to discipline officers." This report is certainly a broad national view of the issue, which is too expansive to apply to the college level. However, it indicates the lack of information on the subject. Visiting the Massachusetts State Police website yields no further results on instances of police brutality cases either. In fact, the only reference to such on the site is in the job application for aspiring officers. Using the search feature on the Worcester Police Department website, a search for the word "brutality" yields zero results.

Certainly this shortage of information has nothing to do with Worcester State College or the people here who have proposed arming campus police, nor does the lack of statistical figures implicate any police officer on campus of any wrongdoing. Quite the opposite, Chief Naughton has stated that only one officer in her seven years of service to the College has been terminated for cause, which indicates a strong hiring process and vetting system on her department's behalf. Nonetheless, the question remains, how often to police officers misuse their weapons? It seems the answer to that question does not exist.

There are plenty of incidents which could be used to justify arming campus police with Virginia Tech being a tragic and recent example. However, as well vetted as the hiring process is, there are also plenty of incidents that should bring the Student Government Association and the Board of Trustees to a pause. Tyler Peterson, a sheriff's deputy and part-time police officer from Crandon, Wisconsin shot and killed six people in a party on October 8th of this year. On July 6th an Orem, Arizona police officer attempted to cite seventy year old Betty Perry for not watering her lawn. When she refused to give the officer her name, she was arrested. In the struggle, her nose was broken. In Early October a panicked fourteen year old girl of Fort Pierre, Florida was punched and pepper sprayed for resisting arrest and allegedly biting the officer on the arm. The most relevant example of officers overstepping their bounds happened at the University of Florida in September. Loud mouthed and rude student Andrew Meyer had a taser repeatedly used on him for opining at the microphone of a question and answer session with Massachusetts senator John Kerry, and then allegedly resisting arrest.

While the simple question posed cannot be answered, we can look to the Department of Education for their numbers on school violence. In November of 2005 the DOE released a report which said that the "rate of violent crime victims in schools declined from 48 per thousand students in 1992 to 28 per thousand in 2003." Education Secretary Margaret Spellings said in December of 2006 "violent crime rates in our schools are about half the levels of the early 1990s."

If the rate of violence in schools is significantly lower today than in the early 1990s, and Worcester State College campus police did not have firearms at that time, where is the need for them to be armed today?

If there is no means to compare the rate of violence in schools to the rate of misuse of authority by armed campus officials, how can one come to an objective conclusion on a proper policy? There is a very simple answer to that question; an objective conclusion isn't possible. Until a better case is made and we can understand how often weapons are misused on some level, the proposal to arm campus police should be categorically rejected.

Thomas W. Marino III
Editor-in-chief

Firearms and Campus Police

What issues do you think the average college student has to worry about these days? Research papers, midterms, registration for classes, tests, homework...these things are all synonymous with being a college student. Random acts of violence shouldn't be one of them. This is the world we live in; violence surrounds us on the news, in the paper, in everyday life. Reminding us that we are only human, these things happen and taking steps toward safety is a necessary precaution.

This is why the topic of safety is such a major focal point of discussion on campuses nationwide and why the issue of campus police carrying firearms here on the home turf is being proposed. When asked about campus police carrying firearms, an administrator for the school replied, "They wear bullet-proof vests, why shouldn't they be able to carry firearms?" She went on to add, "If something happened, like at Virginia Tech, they would be hiding along with everyone else, because I don't expect them to put themselves on the line without some way of defending themselves."

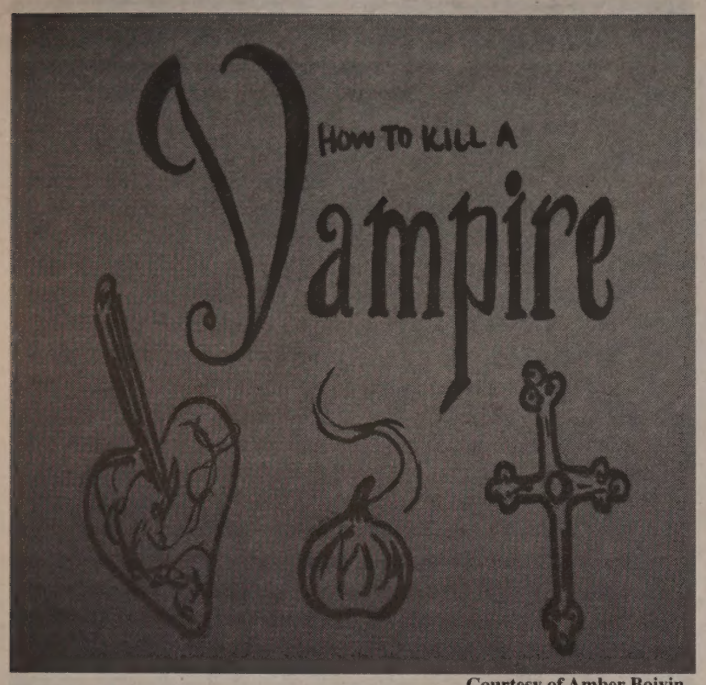
Of course there are many concerns with an issue of this magnitude. This not only affects the campus police officers, but also the students/residents and commuters alike, as well as the faculty here at Worcester State.

When first hearing about the firearms proposal, one student asked, "What if an officer goes into a situation where there were no guns prior, but during the situation another person knocks out the officer and wrestles the weapon away? Now there is a firearm on campus that a dangerous person is in control of."

After hearing more about the proposal and the safety precautions that would possibly be taken if passed, the student was asked again how they felt about the issue, "I'm not really against [it] now." When asked what changed his mind, he simply stated "They were taking safety precautions, they were going through a huge amount of training, most campuses are armed and you don't hear about those officers losing their guns, and if a situation did happen, would I want to be shot at while the cops were hiding behind cars because they couldn't do anything?"

This does not justify allowing just anyone to be able to carry a firearm, police are held at a higher standard and hold more responsibilities than the average civilian. More information regarding the Sidearm Proposal is reviewed in the article where Chief Naughton and President Ashley addressed the issue and questions in an open forum that was held during a Student Senate meeting on Oct. 18th.

Amber Boivin



Courtesy of Amber Boivin

Halloween, Wiccans, and Christianity, Oh My!

Amanda Bruso
Contributor

Halloween, the wonderful day during which everyone gets to dress up and receive free candy from the whole neighborhood, is not necessarily as rooted in Christianity or the candy companies, as many would believe. It gets its roots from an old Celtic festival, one that is still celebrated by many pagans today. Samhain (pronounced SOW-in where 'sow' rhymes with 'cow'), marked the end of the harvest year, when the last of the crops were brought in and the last of the animals were slaughtered to ensure food for the long winter ahead. Christianity took the existing celebration of the dead, and placed its own holidays over it, known today as All Saint's Day (November 1) and All Soul's Day (November 2). Because of this, October 31 became known as All Hallows Eve, which was eventually shortened to Halloween.

In the Celtic tradition, Samhain marked the end of the summer season, and the beginning of a new year. Wiccans follow this closely, and Samhain is the beginning of the wheel of the year, a continuous cycle of celebrations known as Sabbats. Samhain was the time of the year when the God of the old year died, and would not be reborn again until the winter solstice. For Wiccans, the Goddess that rules at that time is the Crone; the older, stern Goddess. She is older than she was the previous spring and summer, and can share knowledge, if any care to listen. The God is Lord of the Hunt, a kind God who takes back the souls of those who die and the wayward souls of those who have died and brings them to the world of spirit. This is not a frightening or negative thing whatsoever; it is a part of life, and a comfort to those near death.

Traditionally, the Celtic people build huge bonfires and wear costumes consisting of animal hides. Druids would make predictions and tell the future. After the celebration, people would relight their home fires with the flame from the bonfire to help protect them during the long winter. Wiccans celebrate the memories of those who have died, and believe that the line between the spirit world and the real world becomes blurred on this night. Personal altars are usually decorated with pictures of loved ones who have passed away. Wiccans find it easier to read fortunes, and for them, this is a night of great power and spirituality.

Some of the practices that people follow on Halloween today are rooted in the pagan practices of worship. The Celtic people wore costumes, just as people wear costumes and go trick-or-treating today. Wiccans offer baked food to the God and Goddess on this night, and would leave some out on their doorsteps for the spirits of their relatives to enjoy. The 'trick' part of trick-or-treat was invented by the Christians, with the trick being slight mischief caused by spirits who didn't receive a treat of food on the doorstep when they arrived. Jack-o-Lanterns originated from candles that were left out to guide the spirits of the dead down to earth to partake of the treats and celebrations for them. Even the colors black and orange have roots in the pagan celebration Samhain; black represents the time of darkness that the death of the God and the winter will bring, while orange represents autumn and the awaiting of the dawn, or the rebirth of the God, that will occur on Yule.

In the past, the Church believed that Halloween must have something to do with Satan, as all witches were in that time as hated and feared as Satan worshippers. In reality, Wiccans do not even *believe* in Satan. Even today, there are fundamentalist groups that use witches and their 'evil' practices on Halloween as an opportunity for evangelism. Simply because of the way that the celebration has been watered down today, many people don't realize the level of spiritual meaning it has for many Wiccans and pagans in general.

So Halloween is not as contrived as some might think. Its roots go deep into real spiritual beliefs. Many Wiccans actually consider this day to be one of the most important of all Sabbats. Now, there will be no more confusion about whether the Hershey company invented Halloween.

Vampire Movie Sucks Audience Dry

Jacqueline Morrill
Staff Writer

The recent comic book-based blood sucking vampire tale, "30 Days of Night" hit theaters everywhere Friday, October 16th. Unfortunately, what was thought to be a 90 minute rampage of rabid flesh-mutilating vampires, was in fact another lame attempt at occult horror.

The premise of the film focuses on an Alaskan town located at the northern-most tip of the Earth, and for 30 days of every year, the sun sets and darkness rises. But what the residents of this sleepy little town don't realize is that a bloodthirsty gang of vampires (cliché where they came from, nobody knows) is waiting to paint the town red -- literally. Many fans could not escape the allure of the advertised painful / messy deaths, and bought tickets, helping propel 30 Days to the top of the box office with $16 million its opening weekend. Those expecting a modern and joyous celebration of gore caused by mysterious stalking creatures of the night were treated to a tired looking Eben Olenson played by an over-reaching Josh Hartett. Many believe that the star of "40 Days and 40 Nights" should not have been playing the hero in a vampire thriller, after all, he couldn't remain abstinent for Lent, what makes anyone believe he is able to save the lives of seven surviving townspeople from vampires?

The reoccurring shaky camera technique seemed completely inappropriate for this genre of horror. The movie is takes place from a third person perspective; therefore, there is no need for the camera to move so suddenly unless it is being seen from another character's viewpoint. With the shaky camera bit, the killings are almost completely worthless and incomprehensible. It takes more than quick flashes of blood and screams to satisfy a true gore-addict.

Though the acting was horrific in itself, and the camera techniques appeared to be amateur, there were some bits and pieces of the film that were impressive. Scenes shot from above gave the audience a different perspective to vampire killings in that the red blood from each victim was splattered on the white, crisp snow. This effect created a gruesome and sickeningly beautiful contrast. In addition, the makeup used on the vampires was incredibly convincing. The faux teeth were not the romanticized, elongated ones, from earlier movies like "Interview with the Vampire" and "Dracula." Instead, the mouths of these hungry vampires were well equipped with rows upon rows of jagged, almost shark-like teeth. One vampire in particular, the leader of the gang, Marlow, (played by Danny Huston) even has a disturbingly severe under bite that, when paired with a string of saliva on his upper lip, makes him a particularly scary and memorable villain. Another plus for "the movie was that there was no cheesy revenge quotes or pseudo-witty remarks before a vampire villain was killed. One of the worst things to happen in a movie is when the plot is amazing, but the dialogue and the irritating quips from wannabe sarcastic characters overshadow the series of important events. Finally, it was refreshing to see vampires that were in fact, *villains* in search of one thing and one thing only: blood. Vampire movies such as the "Blade" and the "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" series are created and then perpetuate a gothic trend filled with sensual occult worship and pop-culture. It's nice for a film to acknowledge that fads aren't universal.

After weighing the major list of pros and cons, "30 Days of Night" rates 2 out of 5 stars. This movie does not benefit from the theater atmosphere in that the shaky camera bit will just make you nauseated, but it is definitely rental-worthy. Wait until the release date on DVD and watch it in the comfort of your own room, you will save yourself an extra six dollars.

What's Your Favorite Scary Movie?

Jacqueline Morrill
Staff Writer

Instead of partying and trick-or-treating, the next best thing to do on All Hallows Eve is to curl up on the couch, pop in a scary movie and work on that king-size bag of Snickers that you've stashed away for yourself. Here, for your viewing pleasure, are the top ten scariest horror flicks, so flick off the lights, take your first bite of chocolate, and prepare yourself for blood, guts, and shivers down your spine.

Starting the list off at number ten is the Wes Craven classic, *Scream*. This teen fright fest is a lightweight compared to some of the others on the list, but for those faint of heart, *Scream* is perfect. Neve Campbell and Skeet Ulrich star in this cat and mouse game of small town murders -- ranging from stabbings to electrocution in the doggy door of a garage. The classic first scene features Drew Barrymore on a typical Friday night: some popcorn, a scary movie--pretty harmless, right? Wrong. If you're not already screaming at Drew for her wrong answer to "Who is the killer in Friday the 13th?" you *will* be screaming by the end of this dramatic teenage thriller.

Number nine is the original black and white version of *Psycho*, directed by the master of horror himself, Alfred Hitchcock. After watching this movie, you'll be sure to keep driving past small roadside motels and to lock the bathroom door the next time you take a shower. Marion Crane is the famous young woman on the run from her employers for stealing $40,000. But when she checks into the Bates Motel, she has no idea what the eccentric night manager, Norman, has in store for her.

Candyman is our number eight and this urban-legend based feature is jam-packed with blood, guts, and a mouth full of bees. He'll appear in the mirror if you dare to say his name five times, just watch for the hook when he pops up behind you.

Number seven on the list has seven deadly sins, seven gruesome murders and one sickly self-righteous killer who is yet to be caught. Brad Pitt and Morgan Freeman star as the detective duo in the psychological murder mystery *SE7EN*.

Wes Craven has become infamously known for his work on films such as *Nightmare on Elm St.* and *The Hills Have Eyes*. However, many horror fanatics agree that Craven's scariest film to date is the time-honored *Last House on the Left*. The grisly film was Craven's first cinematic debut, and shocked the 1972 audiences so much that a new tag-line was created. The disclaimer warns audiences, "To avoid fainting, keep repeating, 'It's only a movie…It's only a movie…"

At number five, *The Exorcist* offers horror movie buffs a bit of everything: a spinning head, levitation, backwards walking down a staircase, projectile vomit, and of course, demonic possession. What more could you want from a scary movie?

What do you get when you combine a rusty chainsaw, a meat hook, and a family of flesh-eating Texan hicks? Four dead teenagers *and* our number four scariest movie; Tobe Hooper's *Texas Chainsaw Massacre.* There have been numerous sequels, prequels, and re-makes of this classic horror flick, but the original 1974 version featuring Gunner Hanson as Leatherface, is the *only* version worthy of your screams.

On October 29, 2004, James Wan's life went from small time director to infamous puzzle-creating horror mastermind. At number three on the top ten scariest horror flicks is the bloodcurdling, jaw-dropping torture fest of a film, *Saw*. Jigsaw's death devices intrigued even the most skeptical horror buffs, and year after year the original idea has grown into a sequel and a third extension. Only three years after the original, *Saw IV* was released on October 26, 2007.

Unsatisfied? You're not into gore, torture devices don't scare you, and you don't believe in the demons that haunt your bedroom at night. Sounds like the psychological thriller is the perfect horror remedy for you. And who else can pick our brains (and perhaps eat them too) better than Dr. Hannibal Lecter in *The Silence of the Lambs*? This classic comes screaming in at number two.

Drumroll -- the number one scariest horror movie on our list is Takashi Mike's *Audition.* To say that this film is mentally twisted, torture-tastic and just plain sick, is an understatement. The story is centered around a middle aged Japanese man who holds auditions in order to find a potential girlfriend. What he ends up with is a slender, fragile looking woman about twenty years his junior whose hobbies include ballet, acupuncture, and dismemberment. Classy. This disturbing tale will send shivers down your spine and perhaps even prompt you to vomit in your mouth a little. Trust me, if you're looking for a *real* horror film, *Audition* will not disappoint

Generation Entitlement

Megan Montgomery
Managing Editor

The next wave of college graduates have burst onto the scene with an increased sense of entitlement that may be just what the workforce is lacking. Arrogance and narcissism are two unlikely qualities that interviewers may want to consider adding to their criteria for choosing prospective employees. An article written in The Boston Globe reports that today's college students are more egotistical compared to past generations. Five psychologists who conducted the study worry that this trend could cause harm to personal relationships as well as the American society as a whole.

Unfortunately, narcissism can lead to negative consequences as it may contribute to the breakdown of close-knit relationships. The study asserts that narcissists are more likely to have romantic relationships that are short-lived, at risk of infidelity, lacking in emotional warmth, and exhibiting game-playing, over-controlling and aggressive behaviors.

Researchers trace the uprising of narcissism to what they call the "self-esteem movement" that started in the 1980's. Many actually discern the effort to foster self confidence was pushed too far.

Narcissism is an ancient concept that dates back to Greek mythology. According to myth, Narcissus was a striking youth who fell in love with his reflection in a pool of water. Unable to avert his gaze from the image of his own face, Narcissus knelt too close to the water, fell, and drowned.

Members of the entitlement generation can be easily identified – the ones whose voices are heard loudly and frequently at meetings. Their aspirations include taking charge of only the largest projects, and smart, brash, and daring, they are endowed with a sense of privilege. Best of all, they are coming soon to a workplace near you.

From the get- go Brendan Huggon, better known as 'Huggies' had become one of the most recognizable names on the campus of Worcester State College. Now a senior, Huggon boasts an impressive list of activities serving as student trustee, vice chair of the Student Advisory Council, student manager of the Student Center, resident assistant, tour guide coordinator of admissions, college judicial appellate, and last though certainly not least, a server at the Outback Steakhouse. "Of course the activities I am involved in are going to help me with my career in student affairs, but I have been active in them all the years I have been at Worcester State College. It's obvious when students just want to fill a resume because they will join everything their senior year and wont put any hard work into it."

This generation's narcissists are finding a new high; lending their names to *Google* and *Amazon*, helping propel their rags-to-riches tales. Jerry Yang, a native of Taipei Taiwan founded *Yahoo!* the most used search engines on the internet at the age of 26. His net-worth is estimated at 2.2 billion dollars and is ranked 432 in Forbes list of the world's richest people. For a young boy who came to the Californian coast knowing only the English word for "shoe," he has risen to the forefront of prominent entrepreneurs.

Today's technology is not helping to diminish youths already over inflated egos as teenagers thrive off of attention seeking sites such as *MySpace* and *YouTube* by which the very names promote egocentricity.

Despite the swell of narcissism, researchers noticed an increase in the number of young people participating in volunteer work. However, these statistics are to be viewed with cynicism, as students may only have in mind the prospect of creating an appealing resume rather than a selfless goodwill exerted from the heart.

Though students recognize the authenticity of these findings not all are confined to this standing.

Nichelle Giddens, a senior at Worcester State College was told by a friend to consider an alternative spring break. While spending the week helping underprivileged children in Nicaragua may not be considered the norm of spring break destinations, Giddens is now returning for her second trip. "It changed my view on everything as a whole. Any community service builds you as a person. If I just wanted to put something on my resume I would not pay the one-thousand dollar fee involved in going to Nicaragua. I genuinely wanted to do something for the people."

With a fresh crop of pretentious youths graduating from college each year, arrogance and narcissistic tendencies may come to replace the modest characteristics found in most average Joe workers. Step aside Baby Boomers, those who count themselves among the generation of entitlement have announced their grand entrance and demand nothing but the brightest of spotlights shine upon them.

Courtesy of Amber Boivin

Thank God it's Tuesday!

Peter Boahene
Contributor

Jamie Carlson never misses a cup of coffee on Tuesdays on his way to class. He makes sure that he arrives at the lobby of the Ghosh Building about fifteen minutes before his class begins so he can enjoy his cup of coffee and a brief chat provided by the Christian fellowship group, Campus Ambassadors. In the spirit of religious devotion and service to others, this group of Christians, made up of WSC students and some local pastors, have been serving breakfast to students, faculty, and staff for the past few years.

The group's main objective is to demonstrate to as many people as possible the beauty of the Christian faith. "We started out by handing out literature to students," says Pastor James Foley. Since, then the group has added breakfast service to its activities. The group sees the serving of food a very important and influential part of their Christian ministry; as a means through which they can reach people and show them that their religion is not just about evangelizing; it is also about showing faith through acts of generosity and kindness. According to pastor Foley of the First Assembly of God Church, the types of service they provide "gives a chance to meet students and interact with them; it's a chance to serve." To him, this kind of service is very influential in helping people to see that Christianity is not merely a religion of words; it is also a religion of action. "It helps to give the impression that we are not here just to talk to them."

Most mornings, the show of support from fellow students is evident. Not only do the students enjoy breakfast (tea, coffee, hot chocolate, muffins, donuts, among other goodies), they are also free to participate an active discussion with members of the group. The group members also said that they serve lunch and dinner in the campus ministry building on Tuesdays.

According to organizers, they rely on campus ambassadors as well as some local churches for financial support. They also said that sometimes, students who are impressed by their services do offer donations in the form of food. "Students bring items they want. Last day of spring, some students brought donuts. Another student promised to bring tea for the next time she comes," said Shirley Hasset, another member of the group. The donations are particularly helpful since the school does not provide any funding for the group because of its status as a religious organization.

Based on the enthusiasm of the group's members and the positive response of students, it appears the group's activities will plan on continuing. It seems that food is a very effective way of reaching the hearts of people, as the group has proven. "I enjoy their coffee regularly on my way to the class," said one student. As for Jamie Carlson, "Food always strengthens my faith."

Preparing for Tomorrow

Thomas W. Marino III
Editor-in-Chief

A frequent organization to come to Worcester State, the Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars is geared toward placing students in internships that will give them the experience they need to achieve in today's world. Taking advantage of their programs this year is senior Emily Thurlow, one of two students chosen this semester to intern through a Washington Center program with the Voice of America, the official radio and TV broadcasting network for the USf federal government. The Brookfield, MA native is serving in Washington, D.C. under the India Bureau for Voice of America; a supporting news program broadcast weekly to India.

She writes, "my duties include researching and pitching stories, retrieving and cutting video footage, assisting in writing scripts that correlate with the video footage, and shadowing several different professionals in each medium of the broadcast industry."

Thurlow, who graduated Tantasqua Regional High School in 2004, is a communications major with a dual minor in theater and art, and also a member of Omicron Delta Kappa, a national leadership honor society that recognizes excellence in five complete areas – scholarship, athletics, campus/community service, journalism/mass media, and creative/performing arts. Thurlow hopes to pursue a career in film and television production after attending graduate school.

Thurlow gladly shares her experiences. She states, "[The internship is] just amazing. I've met such prodigious people, and seen such spectacular sites. As a girl from a small town, I didn't think that I could hack it in such a big city, but surprisingly enough, a lot of people here share the same epic tale."

The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars is an independent, nonprofit educational organization founded in 1975. Its mission is to prepare college and university students for civic leadership through experiential education. The Washington Center seeks to promote future leadership for the public, private and nonprofit sectors of society. It has served more than 35,000 students from over 1,000 colleges and universities. For more info: www.twc.edu

Courtesy of Amber Boivin

Courtesy of Amber Boivin

Sociology Students Step Out

Chrissy Kenney
Lsyout Editor

Professor Al-Kaleem instructs his freshmen students in his Scope of Poverty class to close their books and put away their notes on Friday afternoons this semester, demonstrating a refreshing style of education. The students are directed to do community service every week at assigned designations in order to see poverty in the community first-hand. Scattered at different organizations around the Worcester area, his students work in groups to actually experience the subject matter of which they are learning.

The community service sites include the Worcester Food Bank, in which students sort through donated food to send out to shelters. Another group volunteers by helping young students with homework, job placement and leadership training at the Youth Center. The Village, a housing alliance program for the homeless as well as the substance abuse program located at Jeremiah's Inn, also have volunteers from the class. The Latino Education Institute is affiliated with Worcester State College, and students assist there by helping children with their homework.

Jessica Rivera, a communication science and disorders major, is expectant of her visit to Abby's House. This shelter houses only women and is funded by Catholic charities. "I want to interact with the women there. It will help me understand what the professor has been teaching."

Al-Kaleem's goal for the students is for them to be able to "learn on the site simultaneously what they are learning in class," he says. Student Lauren Sciacca comments about her community service at the People in Peril Shelter, a multiservice shelter composed of support services. "The PIP Shelter has allowed me to put a face to poverty so I don't have to pretend to know what [the professor] is talking about."

Professor Al-Kaleem admits to hoping that this experience will convince some students to go into sociology as a career. While he may not be able to sway every student into his rewarding field, it is abundantly clear that students have responded to this hands-on experiment in a positive, insightful way.

The Price of a Meal

Jeff Moffett
Staff Writer

When a student swipes their one card to eat in the upper cafeteria, they usually don't think about how much they spent. To them, it is just one meal off their plan for that week. Unfortunately, how much that meal actually cost the student varies widely with different plans.

There are four main meal plans for Worcester State students each costing students $1275 per semester: The 7 meals a week plan with $450 in flex money – money that can be used as cash. Next, the 10 meals a week plan with $175 in flex; the 14 meals a week plan with $125 in flex; and the 19 meals a week plan with $50 in flex. Students also have the option of a 10 meal plan with an extra $100 dollars in flex.

To find out how much each individual meal costs, the flex dollars from each plan were subtracted from the $1275 price. The remaining amount was divided by the number of meals per week and then divided by the 16 weeks in a semester.

When asked about the discrepancies in prices, Jason Coombs, Director of Operations for Chartwells at WSC, pointed out that the plans were still among cheapest at Massachusetts State Colleges. Both Westfield State and Framingham State charge $1300 a semester while Bridgewater State charges $1450 per semester. Worcester State also has the biggest variety of dining plans: Framingham and Westfield only offer 19, 14, and 10 meal plans and Bridgewater only offers two plans. All meal plan prices are still cheaper than paying cash to use the upper cafeteria.

Coombs informed the Student Voice that the meal plans are reviewed every year and presentations are made to both the Vice President of Student Affairs as well as the Vice President of Financing. A presentation is also made to the Board of Trustees in their final meeting of the academic year. The board must approve all changes made to the plans. The plans can be changed for multiple reasons, including adding a new plan and adjusting prices for cost of living increases.

Currently, Chartwells has a contract with the school until 2016 which was renewed last time in 2004 before renovations to the dining areas began.

Meal Plan Price Breakdown

Meals	19 Weekly	14 Weekly	10 Weekly	7 Weekly	20 Block	40 Block
Cost / Meal	$4.03	$5.13	$6.88	$7.37	$7.00	$6.50
Flex $$	$50	$125	$175	$450	$120	$120

Courtesy of Amber Boivin

Introducing Amnesty

Sasha Fastovskiy
Staff Writer

Amnesty International is making its way back into Worcester State College for the first time in 15 years. Heading this organization this time around is Dr. MaryLynn Saul – no stranger to Amnesty herself, she brings it into the classroom in her Literature and Human Right classes.

Amnesty International, a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization, emphasizes the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and raises social awareness for ongoing, worldwide humanitarian crises. While Amnesty has always had an influence in politics and promoted neutrality, it has recently undertaken a mission to concentrate not only on government misfortunes against society, but on person-to-person conflicts as well. Among many other activities, AI is known for their awareness-raising tactics; letter writing, petitions, peaceful protests, and generation of interest t important, United Nations-supported issues.

"Talking about all of these issues is slightly depressing, but at least you're doing something," advocates Dr. Saul. "All the numbers [of different chapters] of people add up, and you think, 'I've done something to help accomplish *something*." And people take notice. "If the leaders know that the world is aware and watching of particular cases, they'll definitely be more careful."

Among the large and ever-growing to-do list of the WSC Amnesty Chapter is awareness raising for violence against women and the situation in Darfur, two issues that go hand-in-hand. Next, there are many ideas about what to take on to promote response to Burma, prisoners of conscience, acts of rendition, and prisoners of war. All involve strategies to encourage consciousness of the world's state of affairs.

"Anyone should have the right to express their opinion," states Dr. Saul, and the satisfaction that comes with it is a success in itself.

Look for upcoming movie and discussion nights, contests, and meetings in the student announcements. To sign up and learn more about Worcester State College Amnesty International, write to msaul@worcester.edu.

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Registration
(Continued from first page)

distinctly remembers, that after standing in line for over an hour, he was told that he had to leave, bring back a signature for one class, and wait again for god knows how long, until another person could be of assistance to him.

College life is stressful enough without criticism from behind the registrar desk. It's no wonder students feel the urge to go out and party after their classes have been selected. No doubt, registration is atrocious, but there is hope. Julie A Chaffee, head of the Registrar's office, has a few tid-bits of advice for the students of Worcester State in regards to registration. First, she suggests that students schedule an appointment with their advisors as soon as possible and make sure that their I.D.s are activated. This can be done by the secretaries of whatever office your major falls under. Also make sure that any parking tickets, school payments, etc., are paid off -- if not, you will receive a "hold ticket," preventing you from registering for any classes until the payments are made.

Mrs. Chaffee also suggests use of the Worcester State Webadvisor. Some students still don't trust the online registration yet, but Mrs. Chaffee assures that it is just as affective, and offers the same if not more access to your class registration than standing in line for hours at a time. Lastly, Mrs. Chaffee suggests that students be prepared. They should try to pick out alternative classes, and to have all the codes, professor names, and times ready for the Registrar employees to type in. The more information and the quicker the information is relayed to them, the more likely your schedule will be filled with classes you actually want.

One method that many students find to be successful is to wait in line ahead of time with their lap tops, and as soon as the network is up, to quickly pick their classes online. If this doesn't work, or if the network is not responding, the students are still in line to apply for classes in the office.

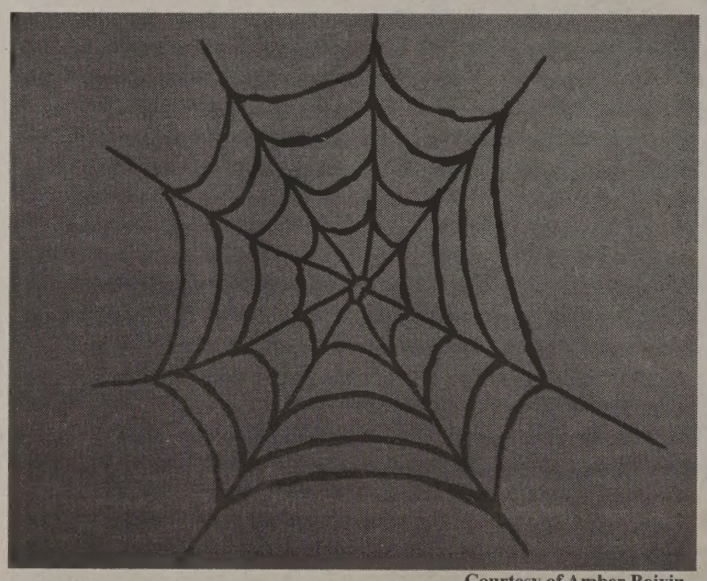
The dreaded days of Pre-Registration begin on November 5th and end November 9th, while general registration begins for seniors on November 13th and ends with freshmen on November 16th. Good luck to all!

Ghost
(Continued from first page)

Thus far, the positions that have been filled are Case Manager, led by Amanda Ziemba, Vice President/Lead Researcher Nick Schrram and Senior Advisor Jennifer Harackiewicz.

For upcoming investigations, Hoey expressed interest in conducting an exploration of Rutland Heights, an abandoned tuberculosis hospital that has recently been torn down. Stories have surfaced of screams being heard and overpowering emotions surrounding the area.

While future investigations are still under works, PSI is always willing to entertain any ideas. If there are any questions or an interest in joining please contact choey1@worcester.edu. Keep your eyes peeled for future information on upcoming investigations and developments.



Courtesy of Amber Boivin

Capt. Anna Morgan, MD
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The Filter Solution

Allison Domanowski
Staff Writer

Approximately 5,375 children in Third World countries die everyday from an easily preventable cause that is taken for granted here in the United States. Leukemia is the number one killer of children ages 0-5 in Third World countries. Many others lose their lives to dehydration. Ron Rivera, director of Potters for Peace, gave a speech in the Blue Lounge on Sept. 26th addressing the need for drinkable water worldwide and how a simple water filtration system may be the answer.

The new filtration system, consisting of a clay pot and a plastic container, eliminates bacteria that may causes diarrhea from the water. The clay pots are composed of red clay and sawdust, actually trapping bacteria and allowing clean water to flow through and end up in the plastic containers, explained Rivera.

Costs are inexpensive: about $15 for the whole filtration system that lasts approximately 2 years. Unlike current water bottling companies here in the United States, the filter will not impact the environment. Rivera says, "We in this country take water for granted," whereas other places in the world people don't have a choice of bottled water, tap water, or water filters.

The pots are created by local craftspeople in developing countries with the idea of creating a better life. Ron Rivera himself has set up filter factories in 24 countries world wide. Other filtration methods used in third world countries include boiling water, chlorinating water, sand filters and solar disinfection. River's filtration system stands undefeated, as studies done by MIT, UNICEF, and the University of Colorado have found. Research shows that 99% of E.Coli bacteria germs are eliminated using River's system.

The new water filters are not entirely perfect, unfortunately. As of right now, the filtration system does not remove viruses. "By the end of this year or next year, we hope to be able to remove viruses. The problem being that they are about 20 times smaller than bacteria," Rivera responds. Just a few countries that are benefiting from the filtration system include Nicaragua, Guatemala, Cambodia, Cuba, El Salvador and Mexico. Rivera hopes to continue expanding and improving upon the filtration system.

POLICE LOGS

October 1st to October 15th

10/2/2007
3:15 PM
Unit 19 went around campus with facilities to mark spots where they need coned off for tomorrow AM.

6:00 PM
Neighbor complaint of music being too loud. After checking noise volume and lowering it down Neighbor called WPD to complain about noise. 19 lower volume again and checked area.

8:40 PM
unit 19 responded...to the S+T building....to check out a strong odor...coming from the basement sewer pump...Odor has not entered the building...maintainer supervisor has been notified..... and will check on it tomorrow.

10/3/2007
7:00 PM
caller states...music is very loud... from the athletic field...unit 19 responded ...and turned down the volume

10/4/2007
9:00 PM
unit 19...acknowledged individual looking around Admin village..... CPO checked individual.... suspicious activity unfounded.... all clear

10/5/2007
1:05 AM
dispatch notified ra's of lockout.. wasylean hall rm 508

5:05 PM
caller(resident) states...hearing a disturbance of arguing/fighting.... from Dowden hall rm 460..units 23 and 19 responded...all quiet... wellness check of rm 460..no one found...CPO's reported this information to the RD of Dowden hall.

10/6/2007
5:15 PM
unit 23....found the front door of the S+T building..propped open... checked building..secured door.

10/8/2007
3:55 PM
Unit 23 responded to a smoke detector alarm in the room 603. Burnt food.

9:00 PM
Lockout CV 23-3.

10/9/2007
10:30 AM
minor accident in May Street lot student hit a vehicle while parking. owner notified.

10/10/2007
12:50 AM
unit 33...towed to Boulevard garage....black escalade...NH reg#2460798...vehicle was taking up 3 parking spots

1:30 AM
units 21 and 15 responded...to power out in...Dowden hall rm 242, ONLY.....room power has been restored...all clear.

8:15 PM
Athletic assistant...requested assistance...at soccer game...to monitor and respond if needed... with an outspokenspectator... unit 31 assisted...no problems..all clear

10:30 PM
unit 19 states...Cruiser #3...seems to have a problem with the starter

10/11/2007
7:10 PM
Units 19, 23 and 31 responded to a fire alarm CV 21-2. Burnt food.

10/12/2007
11:04 AM
P1, P2 and units 16 and 18 are towing illegally parked vehicles.

3:00 PM
Unit 19 met HVAC 1 at Latino House (136 Glendale). Oil tank has been temporarily fixed, must check every two hours. Will be fixed in the morning.

10/13/2007
1:01 PM
unit 16 called on call number for problem with broken lock in cv 7-2. on call never answered call. called caola locksmith to fix problem in cv 7-2.

9:38 PM
student states...an unidentified male was asking questions by the athletic field.....units 19 and 14 responded...no one found

10/14/2007
12:15 AM
unit 33 ...responded to Emergency call box 110....non student misused it....for no reason...CPO addressed individual

12:35 AM
unit 33....escorted non male student...off campus...for vile behavior

2:45 AM
units 24 and 33...responded to a group of WPI students...arguing with WSC football players.... CPO's dispersed the group...all clear

10/15/2007
11:00 AM
Officer 18 completed a jump start on a red chevy pickup truck.

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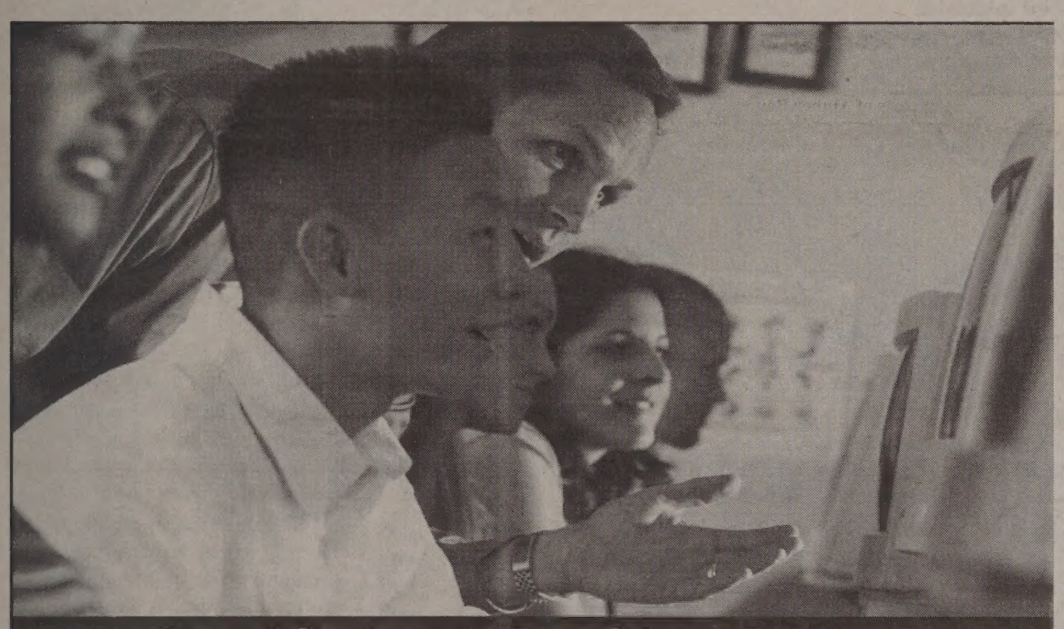

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10 Things To Do on Halloween

by: Amber Boivin

1. Go on a haunted tour-Boston Ghosts & Graveyards (check out viator.com for prices and times)
2. Dress up and go old-school trick-or-treating, a classic.
3. Grab some friends and see a scary movie-*Saw 4*, *30 Days of Night*, *Nightmare Before Christmas 3-D*, *Sarah Langdon and the Paranormal Hour*, *Weirdsville*, among others
4. Go to Salem and view a séance, take a graveyard tour, or watch a re-enactment of the 1692 witch trials and much more (check out hauntedhappenings.org for more information including events, times, and prices)
5. Find some fun/spooky psychic, tarot-card or palm reader and have them decipher your future.
6. Halloween night-McFadden's Haunted Halloween Bash @8:00-$500 cash prize for best costume
7. Factory of Terror Haunted House in Fall River, Ma (check out factoryofterror.com)
8. The Haunted Ship in Quincy, Ma (check out hauntedship.com for times, prices and directions)
9. The Haunted Barn in Townsend, Ma open only Halloween night (rewindshow.com/haunt/haunt.html)
10. Find your way through the corn maze at the Kimball Farm in Haverhill, Ma (pumpkinpatchesandmore.org)

Homecoming 2007

Pictures From Midnight Madness (Courtesy of Allison Domanowski)

Men's Soccer Team Ties Clark

Patrick Sargent
Staff Writer

Last Wednesday night on October 17, 2007, the Worcester State College Men's Soccer Team played Clark University at Clark. The Cougars scored the first goal of the night, then WSC freshman, Anthony Escobar scored for the Lancers earning them their first goal of the night and tying the game to 1-1. The game went into overtime, and ended in a tie.

U.S. Coast Guard Sinks State 46 - 10

Patrick K Sargent
Staff Writer

On Saturday, October 20, Worcester State's Football team faced the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in WSC's annual Homecoming game. The weather was beautiful, the bleachers were scattered with blue and gold, and the smell of barbeque reached the field from the tailgaters in the North Gate Parking lot. However, by the end of the game, things changed dramatically.

Early on in the first half, the Lancers controlled the entirety of the game. They opened the game up by easily moving down-field as Junior Quarterback Pat Good found Junior wide-receiver Luke Cerretani open in the end zone. Coast Guard replied quickly with a score of their own but missed the extra point after a fumbled snap.

At the beginning of the second quarter, WSC was set up with excellent field position after a great special teams effort by Junior defensive back Matt Leeds. After being called for an off-sides penalty, Leeds was able to keep the pressure on CGA's punter and forced a botched punt that left WSC on their own 29-yard line. After a great 10-yard run by Freshmen running back Aaron McCraine, WSC was able to extend their lead to 10-6 after a 23-yard field-goal by Senior placekicker Chris Nosek.

Towards the end of the second quarter, CGA easily moved down within their own 20 and looked determined to score. They were abruptly stopped on third down as Leeds dragged down Coast Guard's running back in the backfield. Coast Guard was limited to a field goal bringing the score to 10-9.

Following CGA's field goal, Freshmen wide-receiver Matthew Goode made an awesome leaping catch for a 40-yard gain. That would be the last of WSC's great offensive play for the day. As the clouds grew dark and abruptly moved in above the field, WSC fumbled it on fourth down and it was recovered by CGA.

WSC was able to hold Coast Guard off for the remainder of the first half, thanks largely to their defense. Senior defensive back Matt Zompa intercepted a pass down field on CGA's ensuing possession. Sophomore defensive lineman Steve Melville and Senior Captain Mike Coppola combined on a sack for a 5-yard loss to end CGA's last possession of the first half.

WSC's final possession of the first half would be a sign of things to come. The rain came and the crowd quickly dispersed in a mass exodus to find shelter. WSC fumbled again but it was recovered by Sophomore offensive lineman Pat Murray. However, this was shortly followed by an interception on the last play of the first half.

At the beginning of the second half, many of the supporters returned to their seats with their umbrellas and rain-coats to see if WSC could hold on to their lead and pull out its first win against Coast Guard. Before Saturday's game, Coast Guard held a 2-0 record against WSC after beating them last year and in 1995. WSC fans were disappointed immediately. In what felt like only a few minutes, CGA took the lead 15-10 on their first possession. After a four and out series, the Worcester State defense stopped CGA on three straight downs but gave CGA the ball back on the 40-yard line right away after a personal foul for roughing the kicker. CGA took advantage of the penalty and responded with a 65-yard touchdown run.

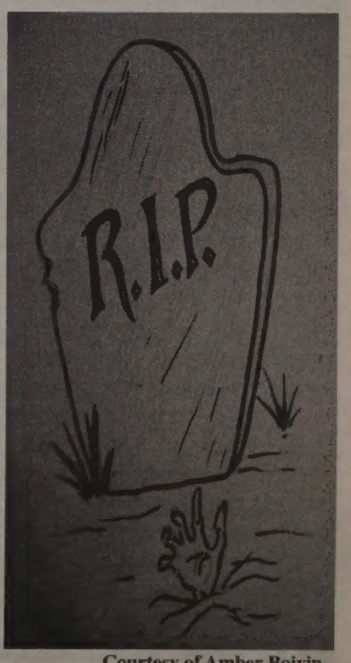
On State's next possession, CGA Sophomore Steve Arguelles picked off a pass and returned it for a touchdown.

WSC fans began filing out after witnessing three straight touchdowns from their opponent only half-way through the 3rd quarter. Things wouldn't get any better for the Lancers as Coast Guard consistently stopped Worcester State's offense and then marched down the field themselves three more times resulting in two touchdowns and an impressive 39-yard field goal.

After 37 unanswered points in the second half, Coast Guard came away with a 46-10 win over host Worcester State and extended their undefeated record over the Lancers.

One bright spot for Worcester State was Freshmen quarterback Gil Ynostrova's ability to easily move WSC down field in the fourth quarter as he replaced Good when the game was out of reach. The Lancers looked ready to score as Ynostrova threw to the end zone, but the pass was dropped. WSC fumbled at the 1-yard line resulting in a touchback and ending any chance for the Lancers to score in the second half.

Following the loss, Worcester State drops to 4-4. They will play at Bridgewater State on October 27th at 1:00pm.



Courtesy of Amber Boivin

Jonathan Kozol comes to Worcester State

Page 3

WSC + old car + sledgehammer = good times!

Page 5

Improve your writing at the Writing Center

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The Student Voice

The Official Paper of Worcester State College

Monday, November 19, 2007

Volume 3, Number 3

508-929-8589

Horrors of Holocaust

Megan Montgomery
Managing Editor

Nesse Godin made her second appearance at Worcester State College on the 13th of November, offering a personal glimpse into the shadowy recesses of the Holocaust. She is the third guest lecturer in the Worcester State College Diversity Lecture Series--a title she accepts with self-effacing reluctance. "I am not a speaker, I am not a lecturer, I am a survivor of the holocaust," remarked Godin fervidly.

Born in 1928 in Šiauliai, Lithuania, Godin's early life sustained a quota of normalcy. Raised in a loving household, her parents implemented religion and Jewish laws emphasized at the Hebrew school she attended. Godin had as many friends as she had dreams, but all this came to a halt on a summer night in 1941. German armies marched through Lithuania as her family hid in the basement, oblivious of the horrors that would ensue. "Little did I realize those dreams would never come true," said a wistful Godin.

With her blonde hair and blue eyes, Godin could have easily succeeded in discarding her Star of David, and posing as a German. Instead, she chose to cling even tighter to the symbol of her faith, proving as liberating as it was imprisoning.

Godin's life progressed from bad to worse when she and her family were forced to move into a ghetto. During that uncertain time, only two conditions were promised indefinitely: hunger and fear. "How grateful I would have been for just one bite of bread," reflects Godin.

What was termed "relocation" transpired in the ghetto as Godin witnessed many of her neighbors, friends, and family being taken away from the area — only to await death. Her father was one of those who joined the growing numbers of Holocaust killings. The remaining Jews were deported to the Stuttof concentration camp as Godin was forced onto a train with the scattered remnants of her family.

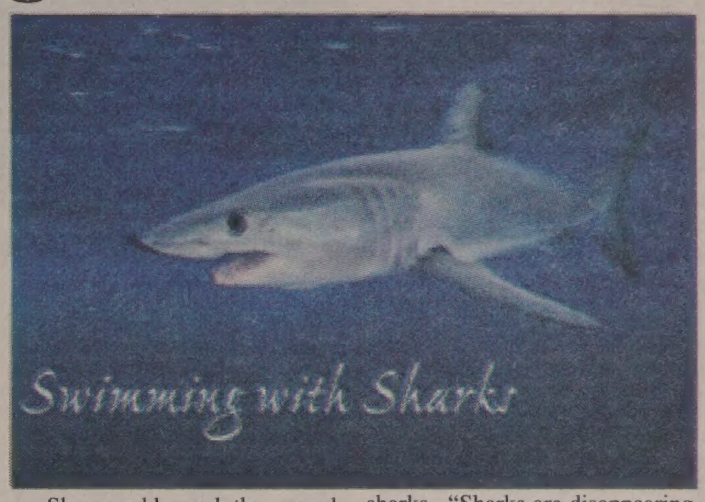
Upon arrival, Godin became separated from her mother and brothers and found herself on her own in a camp that would soon kill 85,000 out of its 110,000 prisoners. Along with their clothes, their identity was stripped from them; Godin became known as prisoner #54,015.

"Little girl, they are going to kill you," said a nameless woman prisoner, gazing at Godin's frail body.

Holocaust, page 6

Swimming With the Sharks

Patrick K Sargent
Staff Writer



In celebration of the Greater Worcester Land Trust's 20th Anniversary, a photo presentation with National Geographic underwater photographer Brian Skerry was held at the Ecotarium in Worcester on Friday November 9th. Skerry, a Worcester State graduate and native of Uxbridge, has been working for National Geographic since 1998.

The event, titled *Swimming with the Sharks*, drew nearly 300 people and began with a reception featuring live music by the Chromatic Swing accompanied by guest vocalist Linda Dagnello. The lower floor of the museum was lined with large prints of Skerry's work that provided a small sampling of the presentation that would be conducted later in the evening.

Opening remarks were given by President of the Land Trust, Allen Fletcher, who discussed the history of the organization and recognized a few of the many people involved that make it a success. As Fletcher introduced Skerry, he noted that Worcester State College stepped in and agreed to sponsor the event just three days prior and how appreciative the Land Trust was of their generosity. Fletcher said, "Worcester State is proud to claim Brian as alumni. Brian is doing what is a childhood dream and what is a dream for any photographer."

Skerry addressed the crowd from the center staircase of the museum. "I've been privileged to pursue my dream," Skerry said. "A kid from Uxbridge working as a photographer for National Geographic is probably a one in a billion chance."

Skerry started diving about 30 years ago and spends six to eight months a year in the field. In the Ecotarium's Alden Digital Planetarium, Skerry presented an array of his work including photos of dolphins in Ireland, squids in Northern California, and baby harp seals in the Canadian Arctic. The headliner of the presentation was his work with Bahaman sharks.

"I love sharks. I love swimming with them. I love photographing them as well," said Skerry.

As beautiful as these images were, Skerry expressed his concern about the rapid decline of large fish in the ocean, especially sharks. "Sharks are disappearing at an alarming rate. We're losing about a 100 million sharks per year, largely due to things like industrialized commercial fishing," said Skerry.

Skerry also wanted to "put a face on seafood," as he presented a series of images on the Yellow Fin Tuna in Mexico and the Blue Fin Tuna in Spain. According to Skerry, the Blue Fin Tuna is the "most valuable animal on the planet."

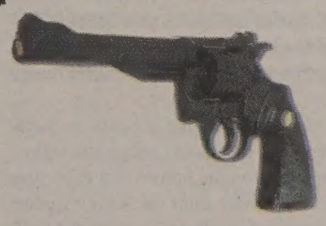
After his presentation, a small crowd remained to speak with him in the Planetarium. Skerry was very relaxed and pleasant with his audience as they shared opinions on cameras, recent technology, and photography in general. He remarked that much of his interest in photography began during his time at Worcester State.

"I took courses in photography and other areas of media and they gave me a solid foundation to pursue this type of career," Skerry said.

The ability that Skerry had to draw in an audience and present in such a natural manner was part of what made him a "perfect fit" for Fletcher and the Land Trust's celebration. Fletcher said, "Here is this guy who is utterly normal, extremely amiable, but well-adjusted and non-neurotic, who has achieved his life dream and is producing extraordinary work. And in the process of it he has become very passionate about the plight of the ocean."

Firearms Proposal Passed

Amber Boivin
Staff Writer



As many may or may not know, the trustees passed the firearms proposal on Thursday, November 8th. The vote was 9-1, where student trustee Brandon Huggon was the only one who voted against the proposal. Even though Huggon himself was for it, he based his vote on the referendum where 155 students voted against it, and 148 voted for it (14 voted undecided). The decision, which will allow the 16 officers of campus police to carry firearms, has created many different reactions among both students and faculty.

During the trustees meeting, students, faculty and other members of the community were able to express their opinions to the trustees. Many were very hard-pressed against the proposal being passed and immediately after it was Okayed, were "up in arms" over the decision. Some students, who felt that their opinions didn't matter, are a part of a Facebook group created by resident Jon Perez. The online bunch enables students who feel as though their opinions do not matter to give their input on the issue. On the page, Perez writes, "Campus Police will be armed, congratulations. We weren't against them being armed, we are against the lack of information, the lack of a relationship between the officers and the community, and most importantly we are against our opinion not being important at all."

Resident Assistant Maria

Firearms, page 6

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THE VOICE

Worcester State College's Student Newspaper

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Corrections- We apologize for the oversight in the October 29 edition. "Men's Soccer Team Ties Clark" was written by Liz Malone.

The Student Voice of
Worcester State College

The Student Voice is an independent news magazine published throughout the school year with funds procured through advertising and provided by the Student Government Association of Worcester State College, 486 Chandler St., Worcester, MA 01602. The news magazine is published every other Tuesday and is printed by Turley Publications. The Student Voice is serviced for national advertising by Cass Communications and is listed in Oxbridge Communication, Inc.'s Directory of College Student Press in America. The Student Voice takes no responsibility for unsolicited material or manuscripts submitted.

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From the Desk of: The Editor in Chief

It's very difficult to make a judgment on what has been most despicable within the events of the past few weeks on this campus in the political façade of democracy surrounding the proposal to issue firearms to campus police. Was it Worcester State College President Janelle Ashley putting forth what has become her campaign speech to the board of trustees in support of campus police being armed with fire arms? The same speech which hardly deviated from that which could be heard in front of the Student Senate and the open forums held on the issue? Was it her declaration of, "the world we live in has changed" being a direct mischaracterization of the actual statistics on the downward trend of violence within institutions of education, made public by the Department of Education? (See comments of Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings December 2006). Was it the blank stares of every member of the Board of Trustees, evident as they sat in silence listening to student after student at the microphone, armed with question after question? Was it the shameful display of further cowardice when all *but* the Student Trustee remained stone-cold silent when Chairman Tetler opened the issue for discussion and debate amongst the board members? Was it the Chairman's patronization – when he didn't have the courtesy to call for a roll call vote? (A roll call vote puts all members on the record with their individual votes.)

Personally, I think Chief Naughton was the cherry on the patronizing sundae. When responding to a question about the potential benefits of accreditation from the law enforcement industry, which would be possible if the force was armed, she closed her response by declaring, "it's a pretty big deal within our profession." This comment proves that the students of Worcester State College should be marching forward in continuing the fight in opposition to this proposal. Well done Chief Naughton; her comment very plainly showed her loyalties are to the administration of the college, the college security industry, and to the furthering of her own department's reputation; not to the students. Her comment encapsulates the motif that the administration has shown throughout this debate: the students of Worcester State College are *subjects* of the college administration, not *citizens* of the college community. In other words, our vote does not matter.

The college administration and the Board of Trustees should have taken as an example of leadership the actions of the student trustee over the last few weeks. Brandon Huggon made no secret of his personal opinion on the proposal of the administration, he believed in it. However, instead of campaigning for the proposal, he talked with and listened to his constituents. When the time came to cast his vote, he did not pander to the administration (something which would have been in his personal best interest), but he represented the will of his constituents as they voted in the student referendum. Huggon deserves a great deal of credit and appreciation from the entire student body. We have someone who listens to us. Similarly, Chairman Tetler could have taken the example set by Student Senate Chairman Seth Ridinger and called for a roll call vote as any responsible leader would have done.

The administration, as well as the Board of Trustees firmly believes this fight is over. They sat through the students speaking, they voted, they closed the case. The administration and trustees come out smelling like roses to the State House, the Chief of Police has a new mandate and marketability, and the will of the students was overruled.

The beginning of the next phase of combating this proposal should be for the students to make the following demands to our administration.

Firstly, President Ashley, Chief Naughton and all members of the Board of Trustees who voted for this proposal should make public, in an open letter to the entire student population, their intention to immediately resign their posts in the event of any misuse of a firearm by any campus police officer, whether the incident leads to injury or not. If there is a mishandling of a weapon that they voted for, they should be willing to leave.

Next, an immediate petition should be started, to be sent to the Governor's office as well as to every state senator, to overturn the portion of the state law which prohibits those legally licensed to carry a concealed weapon from doing so on the grounds of a campus (see MGL 169.10 (j) as well as pg. 73 of the WSC 2007-2008 Student Handbook). We should expect the signatures of the President Ashley, Chief Naughton and all members of the board of trustees who voted in favor of the proposal.

Throughout history, I am unaware of any population which has benefitted from being required to disarm or remain unarmed when that policy has been enforced by an armed authority. We are all endowed by birth (some would say by God) with certain rights; one of those rights is self defense.

President Ashley has said, as part of her stump speech in support of the proposal, that "in a perfect world this would not be necessary." Police officers are not infallible in our imperfect world. This petition will allow us to see the great divide among the Worcester State College community on this issue into three distinct groups.

1. If you did not support the administration proposal and refuse to sign the petition, you are consistent in your position that guns on campus are a dangerous idea.
2. If you supported the proposal and agree to sign the petition, you have advocated a position consistent with the founding principles of the United States of America and the ideas of Jefferson, Washington and Adams.
3. If you supported the proposal, but refuse to sign the petition your position is consistent with the policies implemented by Saloth Sar "Pol Pot," Joseph Stalin and Adolph Hitler.

Judgement Day cometh, which side are you on?

Thomas W. Marino III
Editor in Chief

Fire Away!

I find it surprising how much controversy there has been about the proposal to allow campus police to carry firearms. Such uproar would be expected if the plan was to arm convicted felons. Those being armed, however, are highly trained police officers whose job is to protect the campus. Firearms will only support that goal.

Campus police officers are not very different from normal cops. They go through the same training as normal police officers. Police chief Naughton has assured us that all officers will go through special training before they are allowed to handle any firearms on campus. Officers aren't simply being handed guns and sent on their way.

Incidents like Columbine and Virginia Tech show the need for someone on campus to be armed. One cannot expect our officers to respond to an incident where someone might be armed without a means to protect themselves. Right now anyone could easily bring a gun onto campus and they would have a good 5 – 10 minutes before Worcester city police would respond. Arming campus police would cut this response time down to seconds.

Worcester State is the only college in the city with unarmed campus police. We are the anomaly. The sooner we arm our police officers, the sooner this college can enter into the 21st century, which unfortunately can be a dark and scary place at times.

Jeff Moffett
Staff Writer

Letters to the Editor

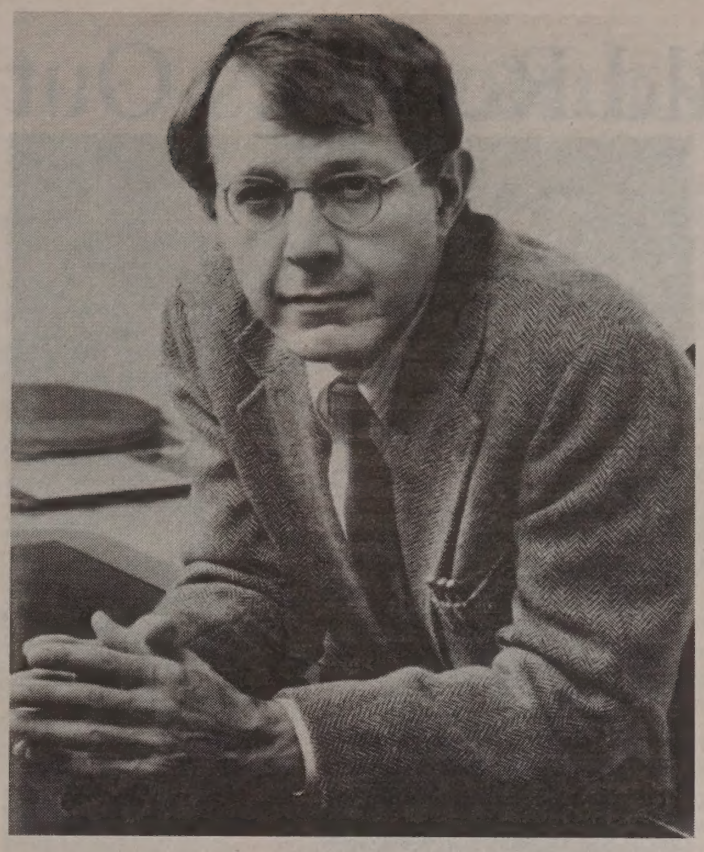
In recent weeks administrators, students, and faculty have been spiraling into a huge controversy over whether or not to arm campus police. Our failure to be connected to one another as a society nearly allowed this decision to be passed through the Student Senate and the Board of Trustees without even a second thought from the campus. If it wasn't for a group of approximately 30 students speaking up at an open forum for the proposal, the Student Senate may have falsely represented the student body at the Board of Trustee vote on the issue.

What has come as more of a shock from this issue, is that out of 3800 students on campus only around 40 students actually spoke out about the issue. The remainder of the student body has been too preoccupied by Steven Colbert's run for the presidency and getting smashed on Thursday night to actually formulate an opinion. What I find more sickening than the executive decision to budget $21,000 for the arming of campus police before it was even brought to public attention is the complete and utter lack of interest and engagement by the student body. To be perfectly blunt, in my opinion, the student body's general attitude is "I Just Don't Care."

Just how apathetic have we become?! Our Student Senate is lacking 3 representatives from the class of 2009; when there's an event there is never a sure way to tell how many people may actually show up, and no one bothers to approach student groups or faculty to tell them how they feel. When you think about it, with issues like these, it's no wonder nothing ever gets done about CO_2 emissions or tax and tuition raises.

If there was ever a time for a drastic change to a poorly evolving society; that time is now. When the debate over arming campus police reaching its climax, the Student Senate held an open ballet for the student body to vote on how they feel about the issue. This is the open door to get involved with campus and social life; to voice about issues on campus and get them resolved; to propose classes you would like to see in the curriculum; to fight for an environmental reform on campus; to have WSC pave the way for a green campus both state and nationwide; to speak to the chairs of campus organizations and tell them your ideas; to speak to that group in the Living Room you never approach but always eavesdrop on; and if you do nothing else, just talk to someone, anyone about anything and help a disconnected and dysfunctional society come together and represent itself so that we will not be trampled over and taken advantage of by anyone for any means.

Christopher Hoey



Kozol Graces Us With His Presence

Patrick K Sargent
Staff Writer

On November 1st, in front of a packed house in the Multimedia Auditorium in the Ghosh Center for Science and Technology at Worcester State College, Jonathan Kozol rolled up his sleeves to discuss the growing failures of public education in the United States.

Kozol is an educator, activist, and the author of several books including Amazing Grace: The Lives of Children and Conscience of a Nation which discusses the violence, poverty and social conflicts inner-city children face every day, and Savage Inequalities, a depiction of the poor state of inner-city public schools in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

Kozol describes his new book, Letters to Young Teachers, as "the first children's book I've ever written. I think this because it's written as a tribute to a beautiful profession." The book is written in the form of letters from Kozol to Francesca, a first-grade teacher in inner-city Boston.

During his lecture, Kozol elaborated on the many ideas set forth in the book including "children who are determined not to like us," the relationships between teachers and parents and between faculty members, and the uses of diversity in the classroom. Kozol kept his speech very light and humorous at times, but still managed to get across the seriousness of his concerns of the direction of public schools.

Three of the more prominent aspects that Kozol presents and which he spoke of passionately are the shortcomings of standardized tests, the concern of the recent developments that foreshadow an inevitable privatization of public education, and the conflicts minorities face in inner-city public school systems.

According to Kozol, children are steadily being recognized as "deficits and assets of the global marketplace. They speak of these inner-city children, not as children, but as products and economic units."

To illustrate his point, Kozol referred to a visit he made to a kindergarten. On the door of the classroom, the school had placed a mission statement. Kozol paraphrased the statement as "The mission of our school is to turn out or develop products that will sharpen our nation's competitive edge in the global marketplace."

Kozol couldn't help but wonder out loud, "Why should these kindergarteners care about the global marketplace? Do you know how small a kindergartener is?"

When he visited an inner-city public school in Massachusetts, the principal was not referred to as "principal," but as the CEO of the school. "And I thought why is she pretending to be a CEO? If she wanted to be in a business, why didn't she got to business school?" Kozol said, and then added, "And make some real money?"

As far as the government's role in public education policies, Kozol doesn't hold too much faith in the current members of Congress. According to Kozol, "Beagles and golden retrievers should be able to run for Congress." However, Kozol did ask the audience to write letters to Senator Kennedy urging him to vote against the No Child Left Behind Act and the standardized tests this bill forces in the classroom.

Kozol says,"In Massachusetts, they now give these tests in November, but the teachers get the results in May or June. So what are they supposed to do? Tell their children, 'I'm sorry, dear, if I knew what I know now in the winter I would have been able to help you?"

The certainty and thoughtfulness Kozol expressed during the entirety of his lecture was not lost on his audience. Throughout his talk, many of the teachers in the audience voiced their approval and understanding of each of Kozol's points, especially in regards to standardized tests and the business-like atmosphere found throughout the education system.

After the lecture, Kozol held a book-signing. The line extended the entire length of the auditorium. He spoke at length with each person that approached him and seemed incredibly interested in what grade each teacher taught, the major of each Worcester State student, and the aspirations and dreams of each individual. (When told that I would like to be a sports writer, Kozol insisted on discussing the current state of the Boston Red Sox. Kozol asked "What do you think they're going to do about Mike Lowell?")

Earlier in the afternoon, Kozol held a workshop for teachers, making it nearly six hours spent at the college. The time and effort Kozol put forth throughout the day, and throughout his professional career, is certainly valuable to all current teachers in the public school system and future teachers at Worcester State College and other college campuses.

*Letters to Young Teachers is currently on sale in the Campus Bookstore.

**If you are interested in writing to Senator Kennedy about No Child Left Behind, please write to: Senator Edward Kennedy
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Enhancing the Student Experience in Worcester

It is an exciting time to be a college student in the greater Worcester community. Over the past year, the Colleges of Worcester Consortium and its 13 college and university members have been busy developing strategic and aggressive ways to enhance both the academic and social experiences of our more than 30,000 students.

In an effort to make Worcester and the region a destination of choice for both current and future students, the Consortium has been coordinating and supporting more off-campus intercollegiate events in addition to expanding internship and community service opportunities.

This past Labor Day weekend, in conjunction with the Shrewsbury Street Area Merchants Association, the Consortium co-sponsored the first-ever Taste of Shrewsbury Street College Shuffle which provided a lively afternoon of fun, food and live music for 1,500 students. Also in September, the Consortium supported a joint concert in collaboration with Pagio, Inc. at the DCU Center as part of Pulsefest. Both events were so successful that we intend to make them yearly traditions.

This fall also marked the arrival of a new and exciting method of Friday and Saturday evening shuttle service for area college students—the Woo Bus. Designed as a means of transporting students to off-campus destinations including Shrewsbury Street, Union Station/Canal District, DCU Center, Mechanics Hall, and eventually the Hanover Theatre for the Performing Arts, the Woo Bus runs two lines both evenings from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. and is free for full-time, undergraduate students at participating colleges. To check the schedule, visit our Web site at www.cowc.org.

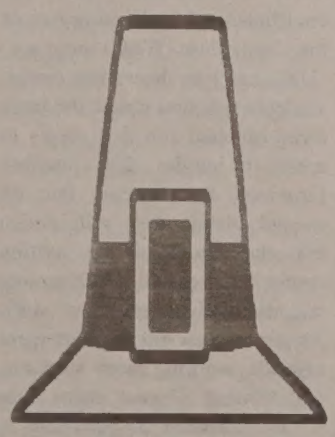
In partnership with the Worcester Cultural Coalition, the Consortium also helped disseminate Woo Cards, designed to promote the city's charged cultural scene to college students. Use of the card will allow discounts for Worcester's vibrant offerings of theater, edgy galleries, music and dance concerts, unique museums, festivals, outdoor adventures and more.

Eleven of our member institutions recently pledged $950,000 to the Hanover Theatre renovation project, a historic downtown venue which upon completion is expected to draw national theatre, music, comedy and entertainment acts. Schools may choose to sponsor a play, concert or recital at the theatre, purchase a block of discount tickets for students and faculty, or rent the theatre to mount their own fully-staged production. This partnership will also allow for work-study programs and internships in theatre management, production and technical skills.

The Career Services Committee of the Consortium recently launched an online database of internships that serves as a clearinghouse for local and regional employers as well as our students. I encourage both students and employers to register for this free service by visiting our Web site. The Career Services Committee will host its annual career fair on March 26, 2008 at the DCU Center. Last year the event featured 67 employers and approximately 300 attendees.

All of these initiatives, in addition to our long-standing cross-registration program, are intended to supplement the academic experiences of our students and more fully engage them in the community. Our hope is that whether students remain here after graduation (and we hope they do) or return to their home communities, they become ambassadors for the Worcester region and encourage other families and students to include us in future college searches.

Mark P. Bilotta, CEO
Colleges of Worcester Consortium, Inc.



Rothchild Reaches Out

Thomas W. Marino III
Editor In Chief

Dr. Rothchild

Faith Zeadey was a loved piece of the Sociology department at Worcester State College for forty years as well as chairwoman of the department. In memorial, The Second Annual Faith Zeadey Memorial Lecture on Globalization and Human Rights was with great success this year, as a near capacity Blue Lounge crowd listened an esteemed panel weigh in on conflicts with Isreal and Palestine. Reading from her book, "Broken Promises, Broken Dreams: Stories of Jewish and Palestinian Trauma and Resilience" was its author, Alice Rothchild, and presentations were made by Worcester State College History Professor Najib Saliba, as well as Hampshire College visiting Professor of Legal Studies Stephanie Levin, and Brandeis University Professor of Sociology Gordon Fellman. Sponsored by the Zeadey family and the Sociology department, Worcester State College professor and current chairman of the Sociology department Corey Dolgon hosted.

Dr. Rothchild declared that her book should be used as more than mere reading material, claiming its goal is to "open a conversation, to humanize the conflict and make it possible for us to talk about it. It is important for Jews and non-Jews to hear Jewish voices who both understand the accomplishments of Israeli society, while at the same time are critical of Israeli policy. Just as criticizing the Iraq war does not make me unpatriotic, examining issues of Israeli policy does not make me anti-Semitic or a self-hating Jew. Addressing issues of oppression and injustice are well within my Jewish tradition."

Rothchild explained her upbringing in the 1950's and 60's to be inextricably tied to the Holocaust, calling it "part of our reality as Jews in America." While describing Israel as an important place for her "as long as I can remember," she also criticized a portion of her societal upbringing; "a society where I had never had a discussion with an Arab and had never heard an Arab Voice."

Rothchild was an activist in the anti-Vietnam War movement and became involved in issues related to healthcare reform. By the mid-1990's, she began an even bigger effort to understand the Israeli – Palestinian Conflict. This culminated in the forming of Jewish Voice for Peace, Boston, an organization that receives royalties of Rothchild's book as donations. Starting out as a simple discussion groups for people from all walks of life and their own experiences, it quickly expanded. "We grew to seek out voices of dissent in Jewish and Israeli society; we were very quickly blacklisted by mainstream Jewish organizations."

In 2003, Rothchild developed a health and human-rights delegation to go to Israel and the Occupied Territories – a plan which has resulted in five visits to the region. During the 2005 delegation, Rothchild used her tape recorder extensively, forging the basis of her book. She said, "I had really interesting stories that needed to be told, exploring how history is told by the victors and the victims and how someone can be both victim and victimizer."

Dr. Saliba's turn came shortly afterward, where he presented a vision for a one-state solution, a plan that was contradictory to the perspective of the rest of the speakers on the panel.

Saliba's presentation stated that since 1993, the agreements signed by Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin have floundered and Israel has confiscated land to an extreme extent –among 500,000 new residents which are deemed illegal by international law. Saliba summarized that it is unlikely that these settlers would be removed, yet that action is crucial to a viable Palestinian state. "The best long-run solution is the creation of one independent, secular, sovereign, democratic state for Israelis and Palestinians combined. Yes, Jews and Palestinians living in one state with full equality of rights and duties." He concluded that, "a one state solution is not far-fetched and might be the only solution to ending a terrible humanitarian situation [...] either give the Palestinians enough land to build a viable, contiguous state, or build a state for all."

Professor Levin spoke briefly and encouraged an activist outlook toward the conflict by encouraging students to consider "going to Israel and Palestine and getting direct experience in what makes sense in this situation." She also urged students to consider their own prejudices when thinking about the conflict; "Many of us are motivated by our own personal interests. That is just the reality."

Professor Fellman was the final speaker of the evening. He framed the conflict as one between accomodationists, those who aim to find a solution, and rejectionists, who demand that all land will be conquered by one, either Israeli or Palestinian. He placed Israelis and Palestinians into both categories, and concluded that while the majority of Palestinians, Israelis and Americans favor a two-state solution, "it is their governments that do them in." Rather than having Palestinians in conflict with Israelis, Fellman described a conflict among portions of each population who do empathize with the other, and those who either do not, cannot, or refuse to empathize. Fellman also sarcastically declared the existence of secret committees within the American, Israeli and Palestinian power structures. He claimed these committees to have apparent mandate to "make things even worse. They do stellar work [...] we are dealing with people who are unbelievably inept and cruel probably beyond even knowing what they are doing."

Environmentally Energized

Chrissy Kenney
Layout Editor

Scattered across campus this semester, you may have noticed various information tables and events supporting environmental and sociological changes, such as global warming prevention and a clothing drive for the homeless. But what organization is distributing these influential ideas across our school? Here at the Voice, we have learned the answer: The Massachusetts Student Public Interest Research Group, more commonly referred to as MASSPIRG. Although the organization as a whole has been prevalent for thirty years, this is the first year that Worcester State has "fully recognized" the organization on campus, according to freshman member Kathryn Mayo.

As listed on the MASSPIRG website [www.masspirgstudents.org], the mission of the group is to help students "gain an educational experience in democratic citizenship," as well as to learn how to face society's issues head on. Mayo explains that global warming is MASSPIRG's main focus, and in October, Worcester State's chapter held a photograph petition to support their current quest to pass the "strong energy bill" through Massachusetts Senate. In the Student Center, students were asked to stand next to a member-constructed cardboard robot to have their picture be taken and sent in to Senator Augustus, whom is now supportive of the changes MASSPIRG is attempting to make.

The strong energy bill is a movement to cut down on energy usage by increasing gas mileage standards to 35 miles per gallon in the next 10 years and putting forth a standard of converting 15% of our energy to be produced by renewable energy sources, such as wind, solar, or biomass – hopefully by the year 2020. Mayo claims that this energy bill will not only effectively work towards preventing global warming, but it will also produce jobs for many people.

If Massachusetts passes the bill, MASSPIRG, according to Mayo, hopes that "more states will follow in the footsteps," and make positive energy changes as well. Worcester State's chapter has begun the planning stages of starting a rally in Boston this spring in support of the movement, and the group also hopes to host a movie showing of Leonardo DiCaprio's environmental documentary, The 11h Hour.

Also notable, MASSPIRG recently held a clothing drive, Get Naked 4 the Homeless, which encouraged Worcester State students to donate clothing to a local shelter. Mayo proudly recalls "four overflowing boxes" of clothes as the final product of the drive.

As possibly the most influential step forward for Worcester State's chapter, the students recently travelled down to the University of Maryland where various Massachusetts environmental clubs met at a conference to discuss different ways to influence government to make effective changes for the public. This year has certainly been an eventful one so far for the students of MASSPIRG, as they continue to go green and environmentally clean across Worcester State's campus.

Work on your Writing

Jacqueline Morrill
Staff Writer

The semester is almost over, but before students can be released from classes, exams must be taken and those dreaded end-of-the-semester essays must be handed in. Luckily for students (and teachers!), the Worcester State Writing Center is here to help. The Writing Center is located in room 306 of the Sullivan building and is directed by Professor Carey Smitherman, also the coordinator of the Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) program.

Upon entering the writing center, students will first notice the large array of plant life that seems to create a jungle- like, possibly ferocious atmosphere, but on second glance they will notice that the tutors of the writing center are casual, welcoming, and definitely know their stuff. As part of their mission statement towards working with students, the Writing Center states that it "is dedicated to providing a safe, supportive, collaborative environment for WSC students, faculty, and staff working to improve their writing skills...We strive to meet the individual need of each patron entering the writing center, and our goal is to help each person become a more confident and self-sufficient writer." The writing center aids students in all forms of the writing process, whether brainstorming, outlining, drafting, editing, or revising, the tutors are more than welcome to help each individual student who walks through their door to write the best paper possible.

Not only are the tutoring sessions available in the actual writing center, but they have also established the OWL, or the Online Writing Lab, which allows students to send their essays to the writing center, and in return, receive suggestions and commentary from a tutor via email. The OWL can be accessed by visiting the WSC Writing Center website where the student must then fill out an OWL form and copy and paste their essay into specified text boxes. When using the OWL, tutors guarantee a 72 hour response time, but make note that the OWL is not checked on the weekends. The online system can be a great way to receive suggestive feedback from a writing center tutor if students do not have time to actually sit down and go over their essays.

While the writing center tutors try their best to help students become the best writers possible, tutors also advise that the writing center is not a drop-off service. The writing center requires an actual face-to-face tutoring session with students in order for them to earn a stamp and signature for teacher approval. They also make it clear that it is not an editing service. While tutors can help students with grammar and spelling, students should also try and work on larger, more important aspects of writing, such as organization and form.

The WSC Writing Center hours are Monday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Walk-ins are always welcome, however, students are guaranteed a tutoring session if an appointment is made. To make an appointment, go see tutors in the center or call (508) 929-8112!

Thanksgiving

Amber Boivin
Staff Writer

Thanksgiving, celebrated on the 4th Thursday of November, represents the end of the harvest season. It is a time that is usually spent with family and friends and traditionally involves lots of food and football. Thanksgiving means different things to different people and no one does everything the same depending on their own feelings towards the holiday. We asked WSC students just what they felt about the harvest holiday.

Kris Roseman, a resident freshman, said, " It's time to spend with family and those you care about…" then added, "and to give thanks for what you have."

Joe Sweett, another resident freshman stated that Thanksgiving to him meant that he will have to "wake up early, have a few Bloody Marys and go to the football game."

Resident Michelle Greaves said that she would "probably spend the daytime with my family and the nighttime with my boyfriend's family."

Other students said that they would be working. Maria Markopoulos, resident, says that Thanksgiving to her meant "food, time and a half, money and sale shopping the day after."

We see this holiday as a time to give thanks for what we have, when really, we should be doing that everyday. Quoted by John Fitzgerald Kennedy, "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

Looking for Good Bands?

theundergroundscene.net provides everything you need to find those great bands that are flying just below the radar. Get reviews of the latest releases, interviews, shows in your area, and much more. Also earn "scene points" by participating in the community. Sign up for your free account at **www.theundergroundscene.net**

Sibling Slumber Party!

Allison Domanowski
Staff Writer

Students and their siblings piled into the Seven Hills Lounge of Wasylean Hall this past Friday night, eager for the night's activities. Hungry siblings' eyes gazed upon the many boxes of pizza stacked on a table as RA's checked them in. As the students and their siblings enjoyed the pizza and fruit punch provided, *Cars* mesmerized the many young faces as it played on an overhead projector. Sibling Sleepover, sponsored by the Office of Residence Life, was a success this year.

"The event went rather well. We had about 71 siblings sign up and approximately half of them showed up, which is very good," said Residence Director, Joshua Katz.

Residence Life members, dressed in bright orange t-shirts, came around to each student/sibling group to explain how more activities awaited them in the lounge of Dowden Hall. Once inside, siblings experienced Halloween themed activities ranging from painting to cookie decorating. Wooden Halloween carve-outs were offered to siblings to paint and take home; as well as Halloween foam project kits. The Resident Life Staff was eager to help the children with whatever they needed, whether it was a new cup of water for their paint brush or more orange frosting for their sugar cookie.

Another event planned specifically for family/homecoming weekend was a Surreal Games video game tournament. As members of the Surreal Games and Science Fiction club were busy setting up two TVs and two projectors for different video games; students and their siblings enjoyed board games and refreshments.

Students and siblings were encouraged to dress up as their favorite video games characters and a few characters that showed up were Mario and a Rubix Cube. Guitar Hero, Halo 3, Madden and Super Smash Bros. were the featured games of the tournament and winners had a chance to take home prizes.

The night concluded with a pep rally in which the Homecoming king and queen were chosen. As the men and woman's basketball teams ran up and down the gym court shooting hoops, the WSC cheerleaders could be spotted warming up as the WSC Dance Team was getting ready to perform first, with yellow ribbons in their hair.

Activities ranged from giving out prizes based on raffle tickets, to free popcorn and cotton candy, to events between competing teams. Audience members cheered and jumped for free t-shirts and school-colored Mardi-Gras beads. Pep rally team events, like a three-legged race and a race in which members had to dress in football gear, got the audience pumped.

"The pep rally was so much fun! It was really cool to see all the students having a great time representing our athletic departments," said Christine Bussell, a junior Communications student at WSC.

Musical Madness

Chrissy Kenney
Layout Editor

The Student Events Committee sponsored "Hump-Day Ha-Ha" performance this November was quite the musical experience for Worcester State students. Bringing immense energy to the stage, The Rob and Mark show, made up of Mark Douglas, Rob Gordon, and an acoustic guitar, poked fun at everything from politics and baseball stats to computer blogging and the current hit music. Gordon, from Manchester, Massachusetts, and he a graduate of Salem State College. Douglas, the musician, grew up in Springfield, Virginia. Both of the comedians worked together in a theater department, and they recall "bombing" the program. After trying to successfully fulfill serious acting careers, the duo reunited to form a partner comedic routine. Gordon and Douglas "make fun of each other" in order to get an audience reaction. During their performance at WSC, they experienced technical difficulties with the audio equipment, but recovered smoothly. Douglas comments, "We have experience, so we could work off of it." Although the duet brought plenty of excitement to the stage, the audience appeared bored and uninterested, and many students left in the middle of the performance. Despite the negative response from the crowd, Douglas and Gordon put their best face forward, stating about their lack of reaction, "three minutes later and we're onto something new!" The Rob and Mark show was certainly a different comedic experience for Worcester State, and Gordon commented that we were a "great audience."

Courtesy of Christopher Hoey

A Smashing Good Time

Joanna Good
Staff Writer

On October 31, 2007, a car smashing event took place in order to raise money and promote the WSCW Lancer radio station –it's second year. Renee Henry, the general manager of WSCW Lancer Radio, offered her '92 Volvo 940 Turbo to be smashed for the greater good – her second year, seeing as Henry offered her first car, a '94 Nissan Sentra the same time last year. Henry explained, "Both times, it was bitter-sweet because the cars had sentimental value. This year, we spray painted band names, musical artists, some politicians, and the New York Yankees to entice ample anger to smash my car... many students enjoyed the chance to take out their aggression on an inanimate object, especially at this hectic part of the semester. It was great- especially because some of us were in costume too [to celebrate Halloween]". Several safety precautions were used in order to ensure everyone's protection. The glass from the car was removed, and the car was fenced off and placed beneath a tarp to collect the broken shards of metal. Students were required to sign a liability waiver and to wear protective goggles and gloves. In order to raise money, participants had to pay a dollar per smash, two dollars for three hits, five for eight hits, and ten for one minute. Loud and upbeat music played in the background by volunteers while the students destroyed the car. Most of the students tried to hit the places that would cause the most damage: the grill, the roof, and the spoiler. The event started off slow, only picking up a few on lookers and one or two participants. After lunch, more curious (or bored) students began to join in. Between 100 and 150 people participated and the fundraiser made about 200 dollars. By the end of the day the car may have been in bad shape, but the students were in good spirits.

Continued From First Page

Holocaust
(continued from first page)

The woman explained that the only way she would not die was to be sent to a labor camp. Consisting of healthier prisoners, her only hope was to feign vitality in order to gain entrance into such a camp. The nameless prisoner pinched her cheeks and stood her up tall when inspection began. The ruse succeeded and Godin was sent off to a labor camp.

"But they did not have to kill us," Godin went on to explain. Many simply gave up their will to live or fell prey to the number of diseases rampant throughout the camp.

In the winter of 1945, Godin left camp to begin the death marches. Many prisoners were forced to dig their own graves, and were then shot into them.

"What my eyes saw at 17 is hard to share, but I must tell the truth," stated a solemn Godin. Among a pile of the dead she recognized family and friends. "I prayed to God, please let me die here." One of the female prisoners heard her cries and replied, "Little girl what are you talking about? You must live and tell others what has happened here and not forget what has happened."

In 1945 Godin was liberated by Soviet troops and eventually was reunited with her mother. The end of the Holocaust left 17-year-old Godin weighing 69 pounds, infested with lice, and suffering from typhus and dysentery, as well as frozen fingers and toes.

"Some people try to deny that the Holocaust ever happened," said Godin. Scars on her face and back prove that even after the wounds have healed, the scars of the Holocaust will remain as imprinted on her skin as they are forever in Godin's heart.

She then directly addressed the college students in the room, "Do you know how lucky you are to live in the United States and attend college?" Godin herself was 68 when she attained her G.E.D. "Count your blessings," she reminded the audience.

Godin currently lives in Silver Spring, Maryland with her husband, Jack. She is intent on keeping her promise to the nameless woman whose kindness is responsible for her life. Godin volunteers weekly at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and continues to speak out against the horrors of genocide. She tells their story and many others whose voices were silenced by the Holocaust.

"My grandchildren ask me what difference can they make, and I say to them, everyday, you can make a difference."

Firearms
(Continued from first page)

Markopoulos stated, "I wanted them to get the firearms, while another resident assistant, who asked to remain anonymous said, "As an R.A. we have to deal with situations on campus that a lot of commuters or even other resident students don't know about. We've had problems in the past with non-residents and students alike being violent and breaking school property as well as more severe issues that could not be dealt with by us or even by campus police."

While many students felt very strongly about the passing of the proposal, others showed little interest. Freshman resident, Gil Ynostroza said that campus police getting firearms didn't really bother him, and he was among other students asked gave the response, "I don't really care, it doesn't affect me." Another resident said, "They might as well have them, we *are* in Worcester." Other students, including resident Penelope Wood agreed, stating "I like the fact that I can feel safer, better protected in case of an emergency."

Voting History on Firearms

April 29, 2007 Student Senate did not pass a motion to support campus police carrying firearms by voice vote

Student Special Elections results:
Residents: 88 yes, 87 no, 10 undecided
Commuters: 60 yes, 68 no, 4 undecided
Total: 148 yes, 155 no, 14 undecided

November 8, 2007 Student Senate passes motion to oppose the proposal of arming campus police by a one vote margin by roll call vote

November 8, 2007 WSC Board of Trustees approves proposal to arm campus police 9- 1 by voice vote

WSC Staff Fight For Food

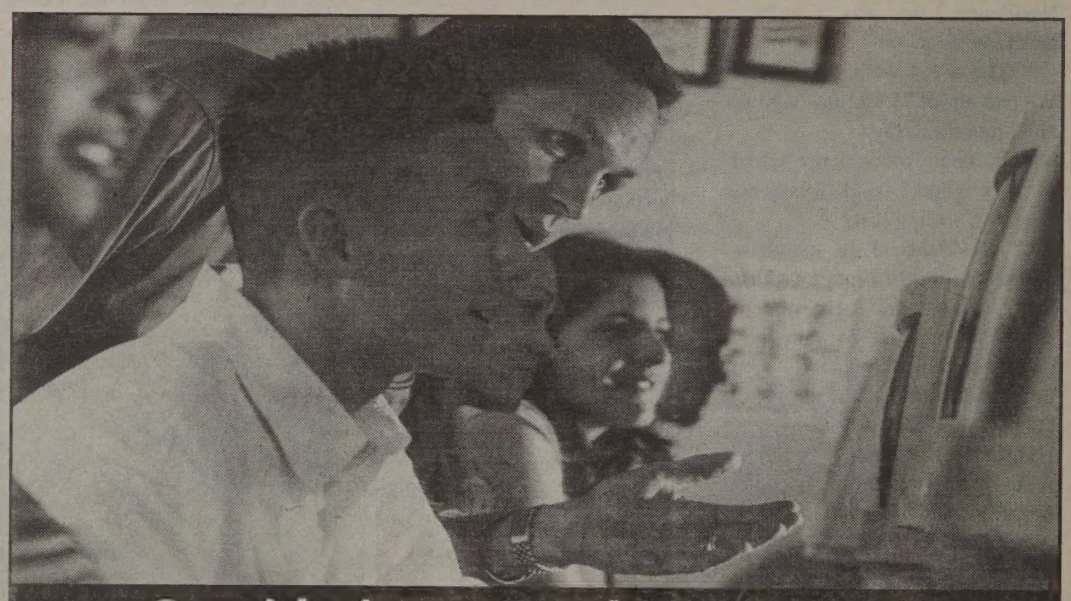
Jacqueline Morrill
Staff Writer

In an attempt to raise awareness regarding the Worcester community hunger plight, members of the Urban Studies Department, the Executive Director of the Intergenerational Urban Institute, Maureen Power, and Chairman of Urban Studies, Steve Corey, in collaboration with he Intergenerational Urban Institute, have organized an exhibit at the Worcester Historical Museum called "Got Food?" The exhibit has been put up in order to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Worcester Food Bank. Collaborative efforts and action to raise hunger awareness has been performed by the Education, Service and Government Academy of South High Community School, Project Bread, Worcester Community Action Council, and St. Paul's Pantry. With their help over the past years, many Worcester citizens have been able to afford decent meals. As part of their mission statement, the Worcester County Food Bank sets out "to engage, educate and lead Worcester County in creating a hunger-free community." These organizations are big pieces of the Food Stamp Outreach project in the Worcester Community and seek not only to raise awareness about community hunger, but also to raise food, money and recruit outreach volunteers to help end Worcester hunger altogether. In regards to the immense amounts of volunteer work the Worcester groups have done, Maureen Power states, "I believe that it is within our grasp to eliminate hunger in our community."

The exhibit reflects the "triumphs and the horrors, the good works and the unmitigated disasters that have characterized hunger relief in Central Massachusetts in the past 300 years," and has peaked so much interest that the Massachusetts Foundation for the Humanities presented a grant to the department in order to showcase the exhibit. The opening celebration was held on November 8th at the Worcester Historical Museum with an introductory speech by Professor Steve Corey.

In a joint effort with the "Got Food?" exhibit is the "Food for Thought" lecture series, sponsored by the Intergeneration Urban Institute, which is being held at WSC. The lectures are both open to the public and also count for credit towards classes in the urban studies department. The forums began September 12th with guest speaker Congressman James McGovern on the topic of "Responding to the Hunger Challenge: In Our Community & Our World." The most recent forum, "Getting a Grip on Hunger," was held on November 7th in the WSC Blue Lounge, with a lecture given by the bestselling author Frances Moore Lappe. When introducing Lappe, Maureen Power used Howard Zen's criticism in regards to Lappe's book, "A small number of people in every generation are forerunners in thought, action and spirit. Lappe is one of those…" If this quote alone wasn't enough to convince the packed audience of the Blue Lounge that Lappe is an inspiration for humanitarians around the world, then her lecture and books surely did the trick. Lappe's books, entitled "Diet for a Small Planet" and " Getting a Grip: Clarity, Creativity, and Courage in a World Gone Mad" provocatively argue the notion that people of the United States are suffering due to what she calls a "thin democracy." She also questions, "If food is a symptom of poverty, what is poverty a symptom of?" Lappe answered this astounding question in her lecture; "poverty is a symptom of people's powerlessness…[of] human relationships that are out of balance."

The next forum in the series, "Getting Food on the Table: Making Food Stamps Really Accessible" will be held on November 28th at 2 p.m. at WSC. Two more lectures will be held in February and March of 2008, for more information regarding these forums, feel free to visit the Worcester County Food Bank website at www.foodback.org or visit the WSC website at www.worcester.edu/iui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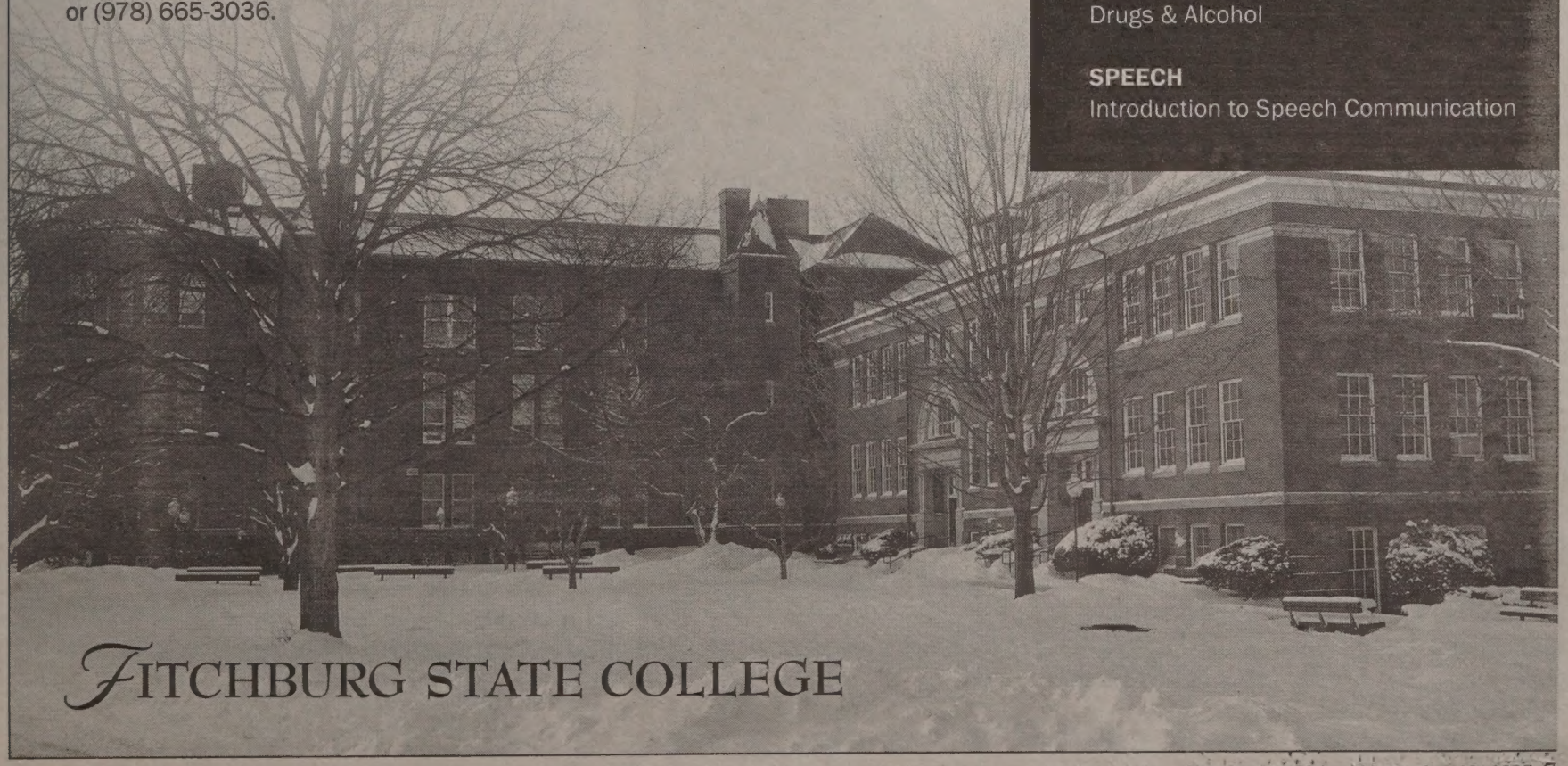

FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE

Football Finale

Patrick K. Sargent
Staff Writer

On November 3rd, the Worcester State football team played its season finale against Westfield State. With painful, stinging rain beating down over Coughlin Field, over 400 fans bared the elements as the Lancers lost to the Owls, 7-0.

Both teams appeared to be affected by the extreme cold and windy conditions, as much of the offensive game plans were based on a running game. Possession went back and forth in the first half, frequently resulting in four-and-out punts. In a very rare occurrence, quarterback Pat God attempted a quick punt on a 3rd and 13 in the second quarter. Although the punt resulted in great field position for Westfield, the Owls weren't able to capitalize.

Pat Savage intercepted Westfield's first play following the punt and quickly gave the Lancers possession near mid-field and ending Westfield's chances of scoring the first half. Savage and Worcester State defense grinded it out with several near interceptions and knocked down passes to hold Westfield scoreless through the first half.

Reminiscent of Worcester State's homecoming game, at half-time many of the fans retreated to their cars and indoors to avoid the tumultuous rain. Before their exit, at the end of the first half an enormous gust of wind swayed the crowd of umbrellas surrounding the field.

As the teams returned to the field and the attendants came back to their seats for the second half, the rain struck down even harder. Although the weather got worse, the play on the field stayed the same. Fumbles and interceptions on both sides moved possession around frequently. The game remained scoreless until Westfield drove the ball 77 yards down field to take the lead with five minutes left in the 3rd quarter. The drive was highlighted by a 28-yard touchdown run by Westfield's Drew Lyons.

The one score was all that Westfield needed as both teams failed to get any type of momentum to get the ball in the end-zone in the fourth quarter as the Owls handed the Lancers their 3rd straight loss. The Lancers finished their season 4-6. Westfield finished at 5-4.

On a positive note, on Worcester State's third possession of the fourth quarter, senior punter Tim Bartucca kicked an amazing 77-yard punt, breaking the previous Worcester State record of 67 yards. Bartucca, in his last game in a Lancer's uniform, recorded 16 tackles with 3.5 sacks in his linebacker role on defense. Although Bartucca and the other seniors finished their last game, the future looks bright as freshman Mike Chamberlain rushed for a career high 97 yards to end his first season with the Lancers.

Announcements

Student Nurses Association Health presents a Health Clinic on Monday November 26 from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. in the Student Center Exhibit Area. Come and get your blood pressure taken and interpreted. We will check heights and weights and offer BMI interpretation. Get healthy with the Woo State Nurses!

"I Can't Wait for Christmas" Charity Concert at WPI Campus Center Odeum on November 26th 6 – 9 p.m. featuring A Capella groups The Technicords, The Clark Bars, Simple Harmonic Motion and comedy troupes Kilroy and Empty Set. Tickets are $5 or $3 with a can of food. All proceeds go to Massachusetts Legacy Fund

Concert of Carols and Holiday Fare on Saturday, December 1 at 7:30 presented by the Chorus and Chorale of Worcester State College at All Saints Episcopal Church, 10 Irving Street, Worcester, MA. Music by Poulenc, Rutter, Sibelius, Rodrigo, Durufle, Williams and others. Tickets are $10 for general admission and $5 for students and elders. Call (508) 929 – 8824 for tickets and info.

Student Recital presented on December 3 by the Students of Worcester State College in Sullivan Auditorium at 3 p.m. Free admission. Music for voice, guitar, cello, piano and saxophone.

Dan In Real Life Review

Liz Malone
Staff Writer

The family comedy *Dan in Real Life* takes you on a man's unpredicted journey to find love and a new perspective on life after the death of his beloved wife. Steve Carell, who plays Dan Burns, a widower and newspaper advice columnist, raises his three rambunctious girls, each of whom carry a piece of their mother with them. In the movie, Dan takes the girls to his parents' house on the lake where they enjoy a family gathering, and unexpectedly dive into life's major issues.

Dan ventures off for a few hours and meets an intriguing woman in a local bookstore, Marie. Along with his charm, he offers some suggestions on books to read. They soon form an immediate connection and even though Marie is in a relationship, they exchange numbers in hopes they can further their newfound friendship. When Dan returns to his parents' home, his brother, played by Dane Cook, introduces his girlfriend, who unfortunately happens to be Marie.

Knowing that his brother loves the same woman, Dan still does not know whether to follow his heart or stand by his morals. Marie tries to hold her relationship with Dan's brother together, but his presence constantly tests her love for him. Meanwhile, during Dan's quest to love the woman his brother adores, he loses sight of his daughters, who start to feel neglected in their time of adolescence.

The family's charismatic qualities bring a sense of warmth to the film. Each character offers a bit of insight into Dan's life and what it means to keep a family together. His daughters challenge his parental techniques, and they learn from each other's perspectives. Dan learns that he can find love again in a stranger. This family movie brings laughter along with a tear, fulfilling each emotion that life takes us through. Go see this heartwarming movie that reminds people that love can happen at any time and totally rearrange your life.

From the Living Room Halloween party, Courtesy of Christopher Hoey

Happy Thanksgiving

The Worcester State Student Voice Staff would like to wish all of its readers a happy Thanksgiving and a safe Black Friday

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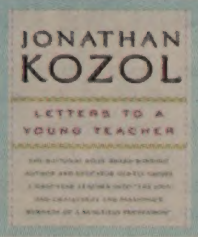

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The Student Voice

The Official Paper of Worcester State College
Monday, December 3, 2007

Volume 3, Number 4

508-929-8589

Worcester State Heads to Court

Tom Marino
Editor in Chief

On November 28, four faculty members of Worcester State College filed a complaint against the college's Board of Trustees in Worcester Superior Court, alleging that their deliberation of the firearms proposal was in breach of Massachusetts "Open Meeting Law." The suit asks for a "court order invalidating any action taken at [the trustee meeting] on November 8, 2007, with respect to allowing campus police to carry firearms or sidearms."

The plaintiffs are the president of the WSC faculty union chapter and professor of philosophy, Dan Shartin, union Vice President and professor of chemistry Anne Falke, chairman of the history and political science department and former union vice president Frank Minasian and David Twiss, a professor of political science and former president of the union. The entire board of trustees is named as defendants, excluding the student trustee.

The complaint alleges that several days prior to the trustee meeting, President Janelle Ashley "distributed a notice of meeting including an agenda [and] a copy of the 'vote' of the Board regarding items on the agenda" (copies of both are enclosed as evidence). The "vote" claims that on November 8, "it was unanimously voted to approve the recommendation of President Ashley to proceed with the initiative for arming the Worcester State College Police."

The complaint claims this vote sheet was distributed prior to the meeting, and the vote the board of trustees took on November 8th was not unanimous.

The complaint also alleges that the board met in private sessions in the president's dining room prior to its meeting, "for the purpose of deciding and/or deliberating towards a decision with respect to the sidearm or firearm proposal."

Massachusetts General Law Chapter 30A, section 11 1/2 states that "no quorum of a governmental body shall meet in private for the purpose of deciding on or deliberating toward a decision on any matter except as provided by this section."

The law does make exceptions and provides for private meetings, called an executive session. However, the meeting must first be convened in an open session and then be closed by a majority for very specific reasons. A reason for an executive session must also be declared in the open session.

All plaintiffs in the complaint declined comment. All defendants were not reachable for comment.

WSC Trustees (listed left to right; top to bottom) Jeffrey Busha, Michael Thomas, Stephen Paige, John Brissette, Dennis Pojani, George Tetler, Jean Campaniello

Faculty Profile: Rahim Al-Kaleem

Allison Domanowski
Staff Writer

Rahim Al-Kaleem, a sociology professor at Worcester State College for the past seven years, found his passion for teaching by accident. Originally seeing himself as a psychologist while he was caught in-between undergraduate and graduate school, teaching didn't cross Al-Kaleem's mind until the Dean of Southern New Hampshire College asked him to help teach a class.

"Here I was, teaching with the Dean and doing my homework. I was kind of like thrown in it – either sink or swim – and I found that I really had a knack for it. I had to get over my fear of speaking in front of people. It's like pretty soon your riding a bike without training wheels and you're gonna fall all over the place. That's when it became clear to me that this is what I was gonna be doing. I graduated with my students and was given a contract to teach," said Al-Kaleem.

Al-Kaleem received his undergraduate degree in Human Services and his Master's degree in Economics from the University of Southern New Hampshire, called New Hampshire College at the time. His schooling focused on setting up social organizations, so as a fresh graduate, he did some building in the community and also received a license to set up private schools.

"But what I found more to my calling was the classroom, teaching students to understand how valuable their time, space and intellect was. It just seemed to be something I was drawn to. It was the right fit for me, almost like Cinderella – like the shoe fit perfect and it was something that I enjoyed doing. Basically, if I had an income, say, for instance if I was a mechanic, I would teach for nothing just because I love it so much," said Al-Kaleem.

His teaching career originally started at Springfield College; but he was plagued with unfair treatment and left his job with a lot of bad feelings. Al-Kaleem has lived in Worcester for the past ten years and basically wound up here by accident. After leaving Springfield College, he decided

Al-Kaleem, Page 6

Peace of Mind

Megan Montgomery
Managing Editor

Drawing upon his experiences as former United Nations Ambassador of Bangladesh, Anwarul K. Chowdhury shared with students of Worcester State College the significance of building a culture of peace on November 13.

Chowdhury addressed a crowded North/South Auditorium where both professors and students listened with paralleled enthusiasm. Introduced by WSC history professor Joseph Baratta, Chowdhury's endeavor towards peace began not with wealth or technology, but rather a much simpler place: in the everyday citizen. "I believe, however much the world around us changes, we cannot achieve peace without a change in our own minds," Chowdhury emphasized.

Though responsible for breakthroughs in science, literature, and medication, Chowdhury pointed out that the human mind harbors a darker side as well. Its capability of hatred and intolerance is what poses the biggest obstacle in securing a society of peace. "We have seen a culture of war and violence spread its venomous tentacles threatening to destroy all that is good, moral, and just," said Chowdhury, making reference to the number of wars spanning the last century.

Chowdhury claims the dawn of the new millennium presented an opportunity to take lessons from our past for a new and better tomorrow. The first step he stressed in attaining a culture of peace is the awareness of change in the nature of conflicts. "The world is becoming increasingly more interdependent and interconnected due to globalization and advancement of science and technology." He explained that the days of conquest and extension of spheres of influence are long gone.

What Chowdhury found most disturbing is that many of the world's atrocities occur between people of the same community and neighborhoods. Great divisions still exist today in people and regions, causing the world to enter into a new era of uncertainty.

In an effort to combat this, it was Chowdhury himself who served

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THE VOICE

Worcester State College's Student Newspaper

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The Student Vice of
Worcester State College

The Student Voice is an independent news magazine published throughout the school year with funds procured through advertising and provided by the Student Government Association of Worcester State College, 486 Chandler St., Worcester, MA 01602. The news magazine is published every other Tuesday and is printed by Turley Publications. The Student Voice is serviced for national advertising by Cass Communications and is listed in Oxbridge Communication, Inc.'s Directory of College Student Press in America. The Student Voice takes no responsibility for unsolicited material or manuscripts submitted.

The Student Voice welcomes letters, essays, and articles provided they are typed and are submitted with a name and means to contact the author. Any pieces that are deemed questionable are brought before the executive board. In the event of a tie the Editor-in-Chief has final decision. Letters run at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief and are subject to editing for style and length. The Editor reserves the right to republish any works at their discretion.

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Enhancing the Student Experience in Worcester

It is an exciting time to be a college student in the greater Worcester community. Over the past year, the Colleges of Worcester Consortium and its 13 college and university members have been busy developing strategic and aggressive ways to enhance both the academic and social experiences of our more than 30,000 students.

In an effort to make Worcester and the region a destination of choice for both current and future students, the Consortium has been coordinating and supporting more off-campus intercollegiate events in addition to expanding internship and community service opportunities.

This past Labor Day weekend, in conjunction with the Shrewsbury Street Area Merchants Association, the Consortium co-sponsored the first-ever Taste of Shrewsbury Street College Shuffle which provided a lively afternoon of fun, food and live music for 1,500 students. Also in September, the Consortium supported a joint concert in collaboration with Pagio, Inc. at the DCU Center as part of Pulsefest. Both events were so successful that we intend to make them yearly traditions.

This fall also marked the arrival of a new and exciting method of Friday and Saturday evening shuttle service for area college students—the Woo Bus. Designed as a means of transporting students to off-campus destinations including Shrewsbury Street, Union Station/Canal District, DCU Center, Mechanics Hall, and eventually the Hanover Theatre for the Performing Arts, the Woo Bus runs two lines both evenings from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. and is free for full-time, undergraduate students at participating colleges. To check the schedule, visit our Web site at www.cowc.org.

In partnership with the Worcester Cultural Coalition, the Consortium also helped disseminate Woo Cards, designed to promote the city's charged cultural scene to college students. Use of the card will allow discounts for Worcester's vibrant offerings of theater, edgy galleries, music and dance concerts, unique museums, festivals, outdoor adventures and more.

Eleven of our member institutions recently pledged $950,000 to the Hanover Theatre renovation project, a historic downtown venue which upon completion is expected to draw national theatre, music, comedy and entertainment acts. Schools may choose to sponsor a play, concert or recital at the theatre, purchase a block of discount tickets for students and faculty, or rent the theatre to mount their own fully-staged production. This partnership will also allow for work-study programs and internships in theatre management, production and technical skills.

The Career Services Committee of the Consortium recently launched an online database of internships that serves as a clearinghouse for local and regional employers as well as our students. I encourage both students and employers to register for this free service by visiting our Web site. The Career Services Committee will host its annual career fair on March 26, 2008 at the DCU Center. Last year the event featured 67 employers and approximately 300 attendees.

All of these initiatives, in addition to our long-standing cross-registration program, are intended to supplement the academic experiences of our students and more fully engage them in the community. Our hope is that whether students remain here after graduation (and we hope they do) or return to their home communities, they become ambassadors for the Worcester region and encourage other families and students to include us in future college searches.

Mark P. Bilotta
CEO, Colleges of Worcester Consortium, Inc.

Campus Police Meeting

come meet your college police along with Frank Amoroso for the Department of Justice to discuss diversity and other issues facing college students at WSC. Refreshments will be served.

Date: December 6, 2007
Place: North/South Auditorium
Time: 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM.

Letter to the Editor

As a member of WSC I'd like to stand up for the arming of campus police--for once. Editor in Chief Thomas W. Marino III would like us all to start a revolution of sorts, to petition and well, hell, why don't we set up protests with peace signs on them banning firearms from campus the hippie way? Obviously, and this is not generalized, Mr. Marino must not live on campus, because if he did, he might just know how many weapons are brought onto and then confiscated from campus monthly. As a woman, I'd just like to point out that a college campus, with dark corners and alleys between buildings, is the perfect places for a rape to happen, and how can you miss those fluorescent yellow flyers being posted in bathrooms and spare wall space around campus notifying students of alleged assaults? Who's to say it won't happen again? Personally, I would much rather be reassured that the campus police had a firearm in order to protect me and any other woman on campus from physical harm. The brawns of campus officers will not prevent a stabbing or shooting, but another weapon just might. And haven't you ever heard of the expression, "better safe than sorry"? This isn't just in regards to the women on campus; I'm sure there are plenty of men who think they could "take on" just about any punk who came barreling at them in hopes of retrieving their wallet, but wouldn't you also be comforted in the fact that if you were violently attacked, an armed officer would be there to protect you? (Not like you'd need it, but it's a nice thought right?)

In regards to the previous letter to the editor, I'm saddened to find out that a student is so adamant in his decision to lump everyone else together in the category of "I just don't care"! It's not that we don't care, it's that there are people out there who love to think that the student's votes don't matter (and I wonder where that thought came from?) I mean, we're just *subjects* of the college, not *citizens* right? Its no surprise the campus has been plagued with feelings of apathy, we're being told by our *peers* that we don't count, so what is the point in trying in the long run? The point is that we *do* live in a changed world, and crime rate is going down on many campuses because of the arming of police officers! If they didn't care, if they were here simply to do a job in order to show their loyalties to the administration and the college security industry, why would they be so passionate in their efforts to enforce the arming of officers? If they don't care about the well-being of the students on campus, then why bother with the proposals and the training? Why show up to work if they don't care? And I think we all know that that sure isn't happening--due to the amount of parking tickets many students have received this semester--I personally can tell that the officers are at least patrolling the campus. Why on Earth would anyone want to ever overturn the law prohibiting concealed licensed weapons, and then not have armed weapons on campus? So, don't arm the officers put here to protect us, but yeah, we'll allow everyone with a legally licensed weapon to conceal it and bring it onto campus? I understand this is an exaggerated proposition, a hypothetical petition used to prove a point, but this is real life, not some hyperbolic quest to prove administration wrong in their decision to *protect* Worcester State students. In conclusion I'd like to end in another question, "when judgment day cometh," will your side support and protect you or hold up a picket sign that reads, "sorry, we're unarmed due to lack of sponsorship"?

Betty Frieden

From the Desk of: The Editor in Chief

Ms. "Frieden,"

Thank you for your contribution to this publication. However, I disagree with your assessment on almost every level.

While this organization should (and will) do a better job reaching out to the student body for contributions to its publication, I can't imagine that your editorial is the first time anyone on this campus has heard an argument in favor of the proposal to arm campus police. In my opinion, that's all we were really told.

A portion of my argument has been -- if you really boil it down to brass tacks -- a second amendment argument. Your comments may be the first time I've ever heard an argument as such and "hippie" referred to in the same breath. Is "revolutionary" now defined as asking people to both be engaged and willing to *do* something over what many people on this campus feel was a wrong done? If so, I'm sorry if you have distaste for protesting, but it's by and large the only way people who aren't in a position of power have ever gotten anything done. We tried asking nice. We were ignored.

Student Government passed a resolution against the proposal. The people that made the decision didn't even pretend to care. Student government asked people to vote and those that did vote democratically turned down the proposal. The people that made the decision didn't even pretend to care. If they weren't listening to those opposed, then they weren't listening to those supportive. Those who were supportive simply happened to agree with the decision that was going to be made, regardless of what anyone said about it. If that doesn't make you feel like a subject, I suggest you check your pulse.

When I referred to us as "subjects," I was making an observation based on the actions of the administration and trustees. There wasn't even a contrived effort to pretend like student or faculty opinion held any weight. The administration put us on notice that this was going to happen and never even pretended like we had a say. Maybe the next time the administration decides to shove a political decision down our throat it will have an effect on you, and you can join the rest of us with the audacity to take exception. Maybe it will be the end of funding for a program in which you work, or tenure will be eliminated and a professor who has had an effect on you will be replaced by a political appointee. Maybe when those political appointees are in the classroom, instead of only administering from a board accountable to no one, you will realize that it doesn't matter what you say; they aren't listening.

I didn't declare us subjects, the trustees screamed it via their complete silence when they had the opportunity to debate. This isn't something that should be divisive among the student body. We should all be completely disgusted at the process, dictated from the administration building, which was used to force this through the bureaucracy. How you feel about the results isn't the issue.

Aside from the process that was used, allow me to correct some assertions you made about my perspective that are inaccurate. I don't think campus police *need* guns. I don't think the crime rate on-campus justifies it (35 non-property "serious" crimes in 2006) nor do I think the crime rate in the community the college sits in justifies it (West Zone Area 3 had 1273 crimes in 2005, 39 of which were "assault and related," 5 "gun shots/ illegal carrying," 4 robbery and 0 murder). That is hard data, not the impression you were left with because you saw some yellow flyers and it left you with a fearful feeling.

I also believe campus police already have plenty of authority. They can already search students virtually at will. If the proposal is allegedly a necessity, I don't think the case for necessity has been made. Because some people would "feel" safer is not an analytical argument based on verifiable data.

However, some people are adamant that campus is in fact a dangerous place. If that is the case, I demand my right to defend myself. The college policy which prohibits against the "possession or concealment of any type of firearm or other dangerous weapon, including but not limited to stiletto, dagger, dirk knife, any knife having an automatic spring release device by which the blade is released from the handle, having a blade of over one and one-half inches, or a sling shot, black jack, metallic buckles or knuckles or any substance which could be put to the same use," violates my right, and every other individual's right to self defense. Human rights are not allocated by government; they are endowed in every human being by birth. Those rights can only be taken away.

The idea I tried to portray was a choice. In my opinion, campus is not a dangerous place and arming campus police is not necessary. Reasonable people can disagree on this, and I'm willing to accept campus police being armed, but never in an environment where the students and faculty are forced to be unarmed. Anyone who thinks that an armed authority enforcing a forcibly unarmed population is a responsible position and in the best interests of the population, please let me know how that worked out for German Jews from 1938- 45. No, I don't believe the Holocaust is coming to WSC, but that's far from the point. Universities can not exist in a police state or in the semblance of one. I think this operates on the "better to be safe than sorry" standard as well.

My argument isn't any more hyperbolic than "the world in which we live in has changed" or saying Virginia Tech over and over again. In conclusion, I'd like to propose a question to you. If the actions of Cho Seung-Hui (gunman at Virginia Tech) is applicable to this conversation, then why are the actions of Tyler Peterson (Crandon, WI police officer who killed 6 innocent people on October 7,2007) not applicable? If the death of Rachael Scott (a victim of the Columbine High School massacre of April 20, 1999) is applicable to this conversation, why is the death of Sean Bell (unarmed and shot 50 times by NYPD on November 25, 2006) not applicable? What happens if the police department makes a poor hire, not because the officials are incompetent, but because they are human beings who are imperfect and a police officer wrongfully shoots a student?

If the administration of this college believes this is necessary, the people who have proposed it, approved it and will politically and/or professionally benefit from it can put their careers on the line for it. Furthermore, if a police officer become a gunman, who protects us from them? It certainly won't be ourselves: we've been required to be unarmed.

Keeping it Old School

Fletcher Tibert
Contributor

On November 30th, the Surreal Games & Science Fiction club will be hosting an old-school Nintendo gaming tournament. The tournament features five main Nintendo game titles: Super Mario, Sonic the Hedgehog, The Legend of Zelda, Mega-Man and Tetris. How the tournament will work depends on how many people enter. The club has come up with some great prizes for the tournament, including a Mario action figure, a Super Mario treasure block plushie, and a DVD of the super Mario Brothers TV show. The grand prize is a golden Super Nintendo Entertainment System. During the competition, the winners for Surreal Games & Sci-Fi's holiday raffle will be announced. The raffle prize is a SNES complete with controllers and a couple of old school Nintendo games.

The raffle is ongoing and tickets are available at the Sullivan T and at Surreal Game's office in the Student Center, room 317. Cost is one dollar per ticket.

The money from the raffle will be used to benefit the Child's Play charity. The club will also be accepting donations throughout .

Child's Play is a gamer-run organization based in Seattle, but it benefits children's hospitals across the country as well as one in Britain, four in Canada, and two in Australia. The hospitals create wish-lists with toys and video games their young patients want for Christmas. Child's Play has partnered with Amazon.com, where you can view the "Wish Lists" of video games and systems for each children's hospital. Surreal games will be purchasing some of these video games and toys with the money earned from the raffle. They'll also be donating games and systems to the Boston Children's Hospital.

The club is also planning future events to raise money, including a proposed "Game-a-thon" on December 14th. Surreal Games public-relation manager Aaron Metzger said that gamers would be sponsored like runners in a marathon to play video games for a number of hours.

Water for Elephants

Patrick K Sargent
Staff Writer

Aside from an overwhelming bout of creativity, the most important element of Sara Gruen's *Water for Elephants* is Gruen's ability to capture a genuine male voice. Jacob Jankowski, the novel's protagonist, is a 93-year-old man caged up in an assisted-living home, forgotten by his family and understandably short-tempered with the nurses and residents of the retirement community.

The story itself revolves around Jankowski reminiscing about his experience as an uncertified veterinarian on the Benzini Brother's Greatest Show on Earth circus, and his life in the retirement home. Gruen beautifully intertwines both aspects of Jankowski's life and fills the pages of the novel with a believable tale of innocence of a young man, a history of circus life in America, unlikely love stories, and the difficulties of growing up and growing older.

The story is surprising, uplifting, engaging, and highly depictive all at the same time. The cast of characters that Gruen weaves in and out are all seemingly real, especially Uncle Al, the Ringmaster of the circus, Marlena, Jankowski's love, and Rosie, the circus elephant. Above all, Gruen's casting of Jankowski as an everyman, a lover and a fighter, an intelligent independent, and as an individual with dreams for a better life even in old age, makes this story worthy of its bestseller status.

Report States Library Changes Overdue

Tom Marino
Editor in Chief

The library of any college or university is supposed to be the intellectual capital of the campus. Not so much for Worcester State College, where the Learning Resource Center at Worcester State College has long been an eye-sore. From the outside, it looks like a building from an age long ago. The inside of the building doesn't encourage much more optimism. That dour feeling extends to the resources available, ironic given its name. The journal library is weak, the website is a joke and the catalog feels like it hasn't been updated in a generation. Instead of being a hub of research, it is the most ignored building on campus. When faculty and students report doing their research at other institutions due to the multiple failings of the library on campus, something is terribly amiss.

This past summer, WSC was fortunate enough to attract to the position of Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Julie Wollman, a former dean at the Feinstein School of Education and Development at Rhode Island College. After she came on board in July, one of the first academic issues that came to her attention was the status of the library.

The Academic Policies Committee (APC) created a Library Subcommittee which produced a report on the library, completed in March of 2007. This subcommittee, which consisted of three faculty members, one administrator and one librarian, produced a scathing report on almost all aspects of the library including the collection, the staff, the access to resources, the building itself, the atmosphere, and the overall communication between faculty and librarians. This report was submitted to the All College Committee (ACC) where it was determined that a subcommittee wasn't enough to address all the concerns. Wollman hired an independent consultant to produce a report on the library, recommendations included.

Less than three months after Wollman had taken her post as WSC, she hired Kathleen Boyd to visit the college library and produce an evaluation report. Boyd, Director of Library Services at Salve Regina University in Newport, RI and a member of the Board of Directors of NELINET, a "cooperative of more than 600 academic, public, and special libraries" in New England, submitted her report Wollman on October 12. The final product was both scathing and depressing; so brutal it is almost humorous. Boyd wrote her initial impressions; "the internet revolution of the 1990's had passed this library by, and that little had been done to accommodate the paradigm shift in the way that students learn and conduct research today." She also described her impression of the library; "much like a high school library of the previous decade."

Examples of other issues highlighted in the Boyd Report were the near absence of communication between library staff and faculty, the lack of communication between librarians, the lack of "group study rooms and areas set up for students to do collaborative work," "administrative 'neglect' of the library facility," insufficient collection especially in the humanities, restrictive hours, lack of internet access to resources, inadequate journal access and the lack of resources for faculty. Boyd was not asked to consider the building which houses the library, as Wollman considers that a separate issue which is under consideration through separate channels.

Boyd made several recommendations across many areas. Nine recommendations on staffing and organizational issues, eight operational changes and two strategic goals were suggested. The suggestions included outsourcing some work, realignment of the library staff, new library positions, more work study opportunities, internship opportunities, technological changes (including more computers and more internet access), extended hours, less stringent interlibrary loan services, and expanded collaboration with other academic institutions.

While the situation is dire, Wollman is optimistic. "With some funding, we could make the library much more livable. Many [low cost] renovations can start immediately." In an interview, Wollman discussed a vision of the library that included student study lounges and potentially an internet café.

Wollman was also honest about the cause of the problems. "I don't blame the librarians; the library has been neglected." She hopes to initiate some common sense changes in the near term that can make the library "a much better workspace for students." She also hopes to attract one million dollars in grant money for major renovations as part of a long term strategy.

In the near future, students can look forward to accessing library databases off campus, (at this time, they are only accessible on-campus). Within the next year, a redesign of the lobby area of the library will begin. Wollman hopes students find the area more comfortable for reading and studying.

"The goal," Wollman says, "is to have a library where WSC students can find everything they need for their classes, and want to go to meet friends and to study."

Greater Worcester Land Trust Celebrates 20 Years of Success

Patrick K. Sargent
Staff Writer

In 1987, the Greater Worcester Land Trust formed in response to the growing rate of development in the area. Their hope was to protect some of the beautiful land in and around Worcester. It is now 2007 and they've done just what they set out to do. The Land Trust is celebrating their 20th anniversary and Allen Fletcher, the organization's president, couldn't be more pleased with their success.

"A bunch of us founded it 20 years ago. I'm very proud of it. I've had a couple of our older members say to me that they're more proud of this organization than any other organization they've been part of," said Fletcher.

The Land Trust is a non-profit organization that consists of a Board, a director and several staff members. Fletcher refers to the board as a small, tight group. "It's fairly unique in that it's a working board. Where most boards are out of touch, we're totally in touch. We meet every two weeks and get down to business," Fletcher said.

The Land Trust recently appointed a new director and for the first time have paid staff. "It took a long time to do, but in terms of internal satisfaction, it's been a group that's been really fun to work with," says Fletcher.

Although the Land Trust's mission is to protect any land worth protecting, Fletcher insists that they are not entirely against development. "We don't think developers are all evil. We don't think all land needs to be saved, but the pace of development was accelerating at such a rate that it was clear that you just needed to save some of it, and that's what we've done."

In regards to the role that Worcester State College students can play in the protection of our land and contribution to the Land Trust, the organization has plenty of volunteer opportunities, including their Volunteer Conservation Ranger Corps. According to the Land Trust's website, "The Volunteer Conservation Ranger Program is made up of volunteers from central Massachusetts with a desire to monitor, protect, and manage the open spaces protected through the efforts of the Greater Worcester Land Trust."

According to Fletcher, "there's a variety of ways young people can get involved, such as taking care of properties, watching over properties, gate construction projects, and helping in the office. We do often have interns from various colleges."

There are many areas of study and experience that students could contribute to the Trust. However, for Fletcher and the organization, someone that loves nature is the ideal candidate to join in their efforts.

"It can really be anybody. Really any walk of life, any area of interest. On the Board, we say that Work, Wisdom, and Wealth are the three things you can contribute and they're all valuable to us. We always need money. If someone can contribute money, that's fine. A young Worcester State College student, we don't expect money from them, but if they can give us their energy, that's absolutely wonderful. It's a good thing to become involved in and we're in it for the long haul."

Finding "new blood" is important to the Land Trust and they've gotten a few young people, as evidenced by some of their volunteers and staff. At this point, however, Fletcher says they aren't too worried about it yet. "We're not that old," he added.

"Eventually, if people are into it, we're going to need people that can serve on the board. The more people that become involved in it, we know a few will stick."

For 20 years, the Land Trust has been protecting land across Worcester County and they look forward to plenty more years of success in the future. Fletcher says, "We have a sense that we've done something good over a long period of time. And, in fact, we have. I do believe in a generation from now there will be people growing up in Worcester who will enjoy the land that we saved."

For more information on the Greater Worcester Land Trust, please visit www.gwlt.org.

Such a Good Deal!

Chrissy Kenney
Layout Editor

Originally scheduled for December Sixth, Lancer Vision Television is going to be hosting a mock "Deal or No Deal," game show for Worcester State students to enjoy. However, the date has been pushed back to March of 2008 because the organization feels as though with more time to prepare, the event will be much more successful. President Craig Tiffany states, "We are looking to put LVTV on the map. We want students to understand who we are and what we do."

Students will be asked to purchase tickets to the event, one dollar each, and a winning ticket will be drawn from a hat. The winning ticket holders will get a chance to be on the show, and they can choose two or three friends to act as their advisors. Rather than the briefcases viewers might recognize from the actual television show, LVTV has substituted these for folders with numbers on them. The highest prize is one hundred and fifty dollars, and the event will be held in the exhibit area in the Student Center.

Junior Michael Lambias, vice president of the organization, , "We think that this event will be a great way for students to enjoy themselves on campus," he says with pride. The event will be filmed by members of LVTV, and then shown on the campus station, channel 11. Tiffany says, "It's going to be a spectacular event. I am hoping it will turn into something this campus has never seen. Deal or No Deal is going to be exciting, exhausting, and an absolute blast," he predicts.

The organization is looking for volunteers for the event, to hold the folders and to help set up. If anyone is interested, or if there are any questions, they are asked to email MLambias@worcester.edu, ctiffany@worcester.edu, or Lancervision@worcester.edu. LVTV has high hopes for the upcoming year, and they predict the event to be very successful. Be sure to purchase your ticket; it is quite the deal.

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Top Ten Christmas Movies

Jacqueline Morrill
Staff Writer

After stuffing ourselves with turkey, mashed potatoes, and dessert (for the second time), watching a traditional holiday movie is one of the best ways to relax with your family and friends. Whether they're in the theater, on television or being plucked from a long line of DVDs off movie shelves, this list of top ten holiday movies are sure to make you sniffle, smile, and laugh so hard you'd swear the pounds of food melt off your stomach.

1. At number one, "A Christmas Story" depicts the 9 year-old nerd Ralphie and his pursuit to persuade his family to buy him a Red Ryder carbine action 200 range model BB rifle, with a compass in the stock of course. This film is chock-full of laughs: a child's tongue is stuck to a frozen pole after being "double-dog-dared," bully beatings of a tough kid named Scut, and the ever popular tagline, "you'll shoot your eye out!"

2. Coming to theaters December 21 is the movie adaptation of the hit broadway musical "Sweeney Todd: Demon Barber of Fleet Street". For those creepy movie lovers and Johnny Depp swooners, "Sweeney Todd" depicts the revenge tale of Benjamin Barker and his sinister alliance with Mrs. Lovett in 19th century London. The plot thickens as Benjamin opens a barber shop, murderously shaving the throats of every person who has ever done him wrong in the past.

3. Who doesn't enjoy an animated Adam Sandler movie with dirty jokes and an elf-like baseball referee by the name of Whitey? "8 Crazy Nights" is a little naughty, a little nice, and a whole lot of laughs.

4. Tim Allen as "The Santa Clause" starts off as a stubborn, sardonic divorced dad whose younger son is forced to spend Christmas Eve at his house. By Christmas morning, both father and son have traveled around the world dropping off presents to good girls and boys, made friends with elves in the North Pole, and knocked Santa off the roof of their house! What's a dad to do? Well, he gains a couple pounds, learns to drive the sleigh and is recruited as the new Saint Nick!

5. Neurotic holiday perfectionist Clark Griswald and his family encounter many strange and unusual obstacles in the family comedy "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation". Stapling 25,000 lights to the house, a surprise installation of the in-ground pool, an unexpected visit from seedy trailer-trash relatives and no sign of the usual Christmas bonus check sends Clark and the rest of his family up a holiday decorated wall.

6. The Tim Burton favorite "Nightmare Before Christmas" approaches the holiday season from a creepier point of view as we watch Jack the Pumpkin King replace Santa on December 25th. Rather than dolls and choo-choo trains, the children unwrap shrunken heads and satanic jack-in-the-boxes while Mr. Boogey Oogey the Boogeyman attempts to take Jack's place in Halloween town.

7. A young Macaulay Culkin plays the lucky Kevin Mcallister in the comedic Christmas film "Home Alone" about a boy whose family leaves for Florida without him. Kevin spends his first day alone in the house eating dessert for dinner, watching mobster movies and having fun without his aggravating family, but when he learns that Mav and Harry, (the Wet Bandits) plan to break in and steal his family's money and possessions, Kevin's fun turns into a game of booby-trapping madness. For more Wet Bandits and Macaulay Culkin watch "Home Alone 2: Lost in New York ".

8. Narrated by the infamous Boris Karloff, the original animated "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" is a classic for all ages. The grumpy green Grinch residing atop Who-mountain plans on stealing Christmas from the happy Whos of Whoville, but by the end of this 26 minute long feel good film, his heart has grown ten sizes bigger and the Whoville chorus is resounded once again!

9. Classic Peanuts illustrated by Charles M. Shulz presents "A Charlie Brown Christmas". Charlie Brown and friends are on a mission to repel the commercialism of the holiday season by buying and decorating a scraggly Christmas tree in hopes to discover the true meaning of Christmas.

10. After inadvertently wreaking havoc on the elf community due to his ungainly size, Buddy, a man raised as an elf (played by the wacky Will Ferrell) at the North Pole is sent to the U.S. in search of his true identity. After meeting his real family, whose belief in Christmas is dwindling, Buddy does everything in his power to convince his family and the entire city of New York that Santa truly does exist!

Also watch for: "Bad Santa", "It's a Wonderful Life", "Miracle on 34th Street", "This Christmas" and "Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium".

Under Milk Wood

Jacqueline Morrill
Staff Writer

Before television and the cinematic big screens of today's movie theaters, radio stories and mystery series set forth the ideals of family entertainment. Pyrotechnics, computer imaging and stunt men didn't exist, and thus, the story depended completely on one's own imagination. However, on November 15, 2008, Worcester State Theater UpClose and the Department of Visual and Performing Arts, put forth both tremendous effort and accomplished acting skills, in order to translate Dylan Thomas' play, Under Milk Wood: A Play for Voices, from radio to theatrical production.

Composed in part as a response to WWII, Thomas' original radio drama was first recorded by BBC in 1963, and was meant to be "an orchestration of voices, sights and sounds that conjure up dreams and waking hours of an imagined Welsh seaside village (named Llareggub) within the cycle of one day." The characters ranged from a widow who tortures both of her wimpy husbands in her dreams, a blind sailor by the name of Captain Cat, an unhappy husband, the postman and even the town whore.

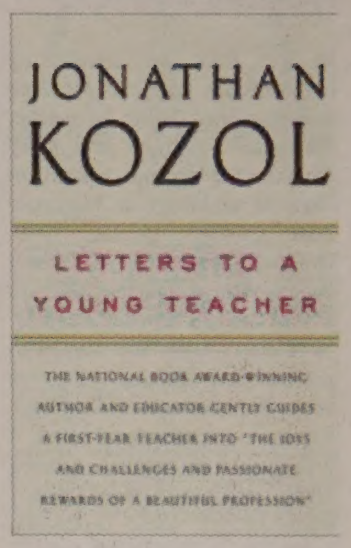
While the main concept of the play might have seemed like enough to hold one's attention, once the narration began, the audience's comprehension to what was going on fell completely flat. This is not to say that the narration was terrible, but merely to state that the written (or rather spoken) words were too descriptive; the audience couldn't listen, watch, and imagine. Just as Charles Dickens' infamous writing had done centuries ago, the narration of "Under Milk Wood" is at times so drawn-out that the audience is left to suffocate in the unrelenting voice-overs, the plethora of over-detailed images and complicated language that might at random sections sound reminiscent of Middle English. The two narrators, played by Lenny Wells and Briana Sasso, act as never-ending captions for each character's daily routines: sleeping habits, their dreams, gossip between them, and of course, their personal careers that embody the "salty individuality of their own [personalities]."

Though at times this drama is actually lacking drama, the satirical language and the seemingly inappropriate actions of certain characters made the audience chuckle under their breath. One such instance portrays the dreams of Lily Smalls, played by Amanda Gillis. In her dreams, Lily imagines herself as a naughty school girl tempting her professor, "Don't spank me, please teacher!" she says with a smile, "[married] but late for school in her dreams every night."

Many of the characters portray the self-doubt of normal everyday persons, their self-consciousness, judgments and unhealthy habits (such as Mrs. Ogmore-Pritchard's neurotic cleaning), keep them from achieving true happiness.

Particularly comical scenes such as the singing of the young Polly Garter, played by Emily Chestna, are a relief to the despair and depressing small town goings on of Llareggub. As the infamous unmarried mother in town, Polly sings a sad yet hysterical tune about the sexual incompetencies of past lovers. Standing in a circle not too far away, the towns-women cackle snide remarks in response to her habitual unwed pregnancies, and exclaim "it should be a crime!"

The scandalous rumors, whispered from person to person like a game of telephone, are what make the people of Llareggub so miserable, and yet, they find solace in the fact that at night they are free to dream of whatever horrific or sexually enticing fantasies they can imagine. Echoed many times throughout the play are the phrases, "Whose dead? Whose dying? There's a lovely day! Oh, the cost of soap flakes." What is this supposed to mean? And why soap flakes? Well, for some members of the audience this question was deeply pondered over but never answered. The theater production of "Under Milk Wood" made the audience *think*. It was not a mindless performance without depth, it was not a musical where the acting is sometimes undermined by the up-beat tunes, and it was not a murder mystery whose climax is the killing of Professor Plum with a candlestick. "Under Milk Wood" was an echoing of everyday, seemingly normal voices. And although there was no actual climax or plot to the drama, the point was to convey one day in the life of Welsh villagers, and for what the actors and director had to work against, the stage production was simply unforgettable.



Letters to a Young Teacher

Patrick K Sargent
Staff Writer

In Letters to a Young Teacher, National Book-Award Winning author Jonathan Kozol explores the inner-city public school system through the experiences of Francesca, a first-grade teacher in Boston. In letters directed to Francesca, Kozol focuses on the failures of the public school systems and the difficulties Francesca faces in dealing with the system's guidelines. Specifically, Kozol points out the recent absurdities of standardized testing, the growing illusion of a public school as a corporation, the nearly inevitable outcome of the privatization of public education, and the segregation and inequalities found in urban schools.

Aside from Kozol's remarks on the ineffective side of public education, he also gives plenty of attention to the overall joys of teaching. Kozol responds to Francesca's ability to make positive contact with a difficult student, the quirkiness and innocence of first-graders, and the satisfaction of having solid relationships with both parents and teachers.

Letters to a Young Teacher is an important reference for current and future teachers as Kozol draws from his 40 years of experience working with children in inner-city schools.

Letters to a Young Teacher is currently on sale in the Worcester State College bookstore

It's the Ultimate Gift Card.

Al-Kaleem
(continued from first page)

to go back to setting up organizations and was working at a homeless shelter for men in Worcester when he met Cory Dolgon, the current department chair of sociology at Worcester State College. In late 2000, Dolgon approached Al-Kaleem about an adjunct teaching position at WSC and Al-Kaleem accepted.

"I didn't know if I wanted to get back into teaching. Cory was very instrumental in getting me back into the profession. I first came from a point of being highly inspired to teach, then I went through some depression and finally I came to Worcester. I found this door open again and I forgot all those other dreams I had and I knew I was supposed to be a teacher again," said Al-Kaleem.

Al-Kaleem was an adjunct professor for five years at WSC before he was offered the opportunity to become a full-time professor on a temporary basis for two-years. Unfortunately, because Al-Kaleem doesn't hold a Ph. D. degree, he can't work for WSC for more than two years as a full-time faculty member. This is mandated by the teacher's union contract.

As of the spring semester 2008, Al-Kaleem's two-year period of teaching as a full time faculty member will be up. Many professors at Worcester State, including Al-Kaleem are going to be caught in this dilemma at the end of this school year and will lose their jobs, according to Al-Kaleem. "Caught in between this whole thing are the consumers; the students. If you have faculty who have been effective based on what their evaluations have been saying and think that the professor is a good fit, the school is going to lose good people. Many professors who are doing a good job will be caught in this contractual thing and won't be able to be hired again," said Al-Kaleem.

According to Cory Dolgon, professors who are hired under a tenure track are given a certain amount of time in which to finish their doctorate degrees, usually a 1-2 year period. He also says that professors can work for many years at a state college without a Ph. D. as long as they are adjuncts. According to Dolgon, these rules are set by the union to keep colleges from outsourcing all faculty members on a temporary, part-time or full-time basis.

At a time in his life when he should be thinking about retirement, Al-Kaleem is going to be job searching instead. So, the question students and professors are asking is, how can we keep and protect good professors who do not have a tenure track, but rather, have proven themselves worthy by past teaching experiences at the college?

Desiree Cuevas, a sophomore sociology student at Worcester State believes that Al-Kaleem's teaching style and lectures are on another level.

"I took his intro to sociology class last semester and I enjoyed it so much that I actually switched into the major because I loved his teaching style so much," said Cuevas.

Currently Al-Kaleem stays busy teaching classes at WSC and Quinsigamond Community College while also staying involved in the Worcester community. Not only does he focus on sociology classes, he is also teaching a 40-student freshman seminar class this semester.

He is an active member of The Worcester Interreligious Forum, which evolved from a discussion at the Worcester county region of the National Conference for Community and Justice in 1997.

"The Interreligious Forum, composed of many different faith groups, is a group of religious community leaders and citizens who are pushing the idea of a 'oneness of vision', purpose and humanity and that all people have principles that are shared in common. We then use those principles and disseminate them into the greater community," said Al-Kaleem. They focus on the golden rule; looking at their similarities instead of their differences, and trying to prove that different races can work together.

Al-Kaleem is going to be joining the Homeless Advocacy Task Force in the weeks to come because he believes that homelessness is a major issue facing America today, saying that as Americans, we have a moral obligation to make sure people aren't hungry, sick, or pushed out of affordable housing. "I'm trying very hard to put a face on the homeless in my class lectures because I want to get people off this way of thinking and current attitudes that are held about the homeless," said Al-Kaleem.

In the future, Al-Kaleem sees himself free up to write, but right now he is dedicated to teaching and his organizations. He wants to do some serious writing and researching "My cup of tea would be fictional writing. I believe that I think like an author and that I really should be doing something."

As for now, Al-Kaleem is trying not to think about where he will be after the spring semester of 2008, but he hopes to find another job that will keep him here at Worcester State College.

Chowdhury
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as the chair of the Programme of Action on Culture of Peace under the UN General Assembly. This historic document stands as the one of the most significant legacies of the United Nations.

Education being a key ingredient in building a culture of peace, Chowdhury called for a radically diverse education for the youth of today: "An education that does not glorify war, but educates for peace, non-violence, and international cooperation." Another matter discussed was the incorporation of peace studies as part of the curricula.

He then aimed the crux of the lecture towards the young people in the room. Urging youths to express their ideas, and cooperate amongst each other to eliminate violence in our society.

Chowdhury called the process of peace a continuous endeavor. "The seed of peace exists in all of us," he declared. " Peace cannot be imposed from the outside; it must be realized from within."

How to Survive the Ho Ho Holidays

Jacqueline Morrill
Staff Writer

Surviving the holidays may seem like a New Year's Resolution in itself. Between the gift giving, the cooking, the cleaning after cooking, the embarrassing moments with long lost relatives, it's all a little overkill. Just trying to remember the date during the hustle and bustle of the holiday season is a nightmare! Thankfully, we at the Student Voice know how difficult it can be. Here are some helpful hints on how to come out of the holiday season with some left-over cash in your pocket, dignity in front of judgmental relatives, and even a smile.

1. Set realistic expectations. The pressure to create the perfect holiday for family and friends is way too much for one person to take on. It's a nice thought, but forget about worrying over the perfect personalized gifts. Unless you can read minds and have a bank account the size of Bill Gates', you should keep the Utopian-holiday image on the back burner. Lower your stress level by knowing that "perfect" isn't always the most expensive, and in the case of the holidays, misunderstandings and embarrassing moments can make you laugh later on.

2. "Gift giving isn't the main concept of the winter holidays" Make this your mantra! Home-made greeting cards or baked goods are just as appreciated as that new fangled gadget from the mall (by the way, have you been to the Natick Collection yet?). If you insist on spending money and would like to maintain your balance at the bank, try a "Secret Santa" or "Yankee Swap" instead of buying for everyone. That way you can set a higher amount and concentrate on the gift and still know that quality matters more than quantity.

3. Skip on the third-helpings. For those weight-watchers out there, here's a bit of advice: rather than grumbling and being guilty about woofing down three pieces of pumpkin pie, stuffing, and mashed potatoes try to plan ahead and eat in moderation. Don't starve yourself all day and then binge as soon as Grandma finishes saying grace. It's not worth the extra calories. Eat a little bit of everything, so when you get to dessert you can have a smaller piece of pie or dessert and still be satisfied. Eat slowly too; it takes about twenty minutes for your stomach to tell your brain that it's full, so be careful of overeating. And don't feel guilty afterwards; everyone deserves to satisfy their sweet tooth during the holiday season!

4. If it's not the sweets you're worried about, try to cut back on your alcohol intake. New Year's Eve can do some serious damage in regards to your wallet and your weight. By setting aside a fixed amount of money to spend on your night out, the number of drinks you buy will also be fixed. If you're going to a house party, drink seltzer water or diet soda between alcoholic drinks in order to fill you up faster.

5. Re-lax. Crazy relatives getting you down? Mortifying moments from the past keep popping thus provoking your face to turn ten shades darker than the reddest bulbs on the Christmas tree? Simple trick: CHILL OUT! The holidays are about laughter, not aggravation. We can all relate to parents setting up holiday outings to chorus concerts where your nana just won't stop tapping your knee or clapping when everyone else is thinking, "Oh, dear God help us." But it only happens once a year, so cheer up, suck it up, and deal with it. Embrace your inner dorkiness that every family holds dear to their hearts, and learn to love those eccentric family members!

6. Too many cooks is not a bad thing. Cooking for twenty-five is no picnic, but in order to make your holiday dinner just a tad bit easier, try a pot-luck. Assign each guest to cook their favorite specialty meal to bring to the party while you bake the ham or turkey. Better yet, have a guest bring the turkey! Buying napkins, dusting, setting the tables and wrapping presents is quite enough for one person to handle. If you're not the host, offer to bring something instead of letting him/her to all the work.

7. Start acting like a kid again. Make a snow angel. Have a snow-ball fight. Spend some of those gift cards at the mall. Drink some hot-cocoa in front of a fire. Now that finals are over you can finally sit back, relax, and forget about classes for a while. Enjoy the time off because spring semester will creep up sooner than you expect.

Elder Advocates

Eileen Teft
Elder Advocate Program

The elder advocates program was started in 1985, by Professor Maureen Power. It grew out of elder students' participation on campus and their desire to come together, share experiences, and find a way to contribute to the life of the campus.

Worcester State College not only observed the commonwealth law that elders receive tuition-free education, but by a vote of the Board of Trustees eliminated fees for them as well. Elders enjoyed their intergenerational learning experience and came to appreciate the struggles of the younger students.

In looking for ways to give back to college, the elder advocates decided to create a scholarship fund. Initially, the scholarship was instituted in memory of Anne C. Collins, an elder who returned to college in her seventies and was just a few months away from graduation when she passed away. Over the years the elder advocates have given away many scholarships to worthy juniors and seniors who demonstrate outstanding performance within their chosen discipline, and who have shown an interest in intergenerational approaches to meeting the challenges of our aging society.

The elders have several fundraisers a year and on December 12, we will hold our holiday party and raffle. Everyone is invited to join us at 1 p.m. in the north room of the Student Center. There will be refreshments, entertainment, and our scholarship raffle.

One of our main fundraisers is the Worcester State College afghan, which we we sell through the scholarship office. Now available, the beautiful new afghan displays the new buildings on campus.

I hope that many of you will drop in on the 12 of December and join us for our celebration. For more information contact Eileen Teft at teffty5@charter.net or Ann Klump at annklump@verizon.net

Health Awareness Services

Family Planning & HIV Services
for women and men

405 Grove Street
Worcester

1-800-637-5466
or
508-753-0800

Sexually Transmitted Infection testing & treatment
Breast, cervical, & testicular cancer screening
Low cost birth control
EC "morning after pill"
HIV testing & counseling

www.HASCM.org
confidential and affordable healthcare

WSC Police Logs

November 1st - November 15th

11/1/2007
6:12 PM
possible stolen bag from Student center see report.

7:40 PM
unit 31 responded to smoke alarm sounding...CV 7-1....residents cooking chicken....all clear

9:52 PM
the surreal group has finished using the wasylean hall conference room....unit 31 secured

10:52 PM
unit 23 ..found eye glasses...in the LRC...put in the lost and found at Campus PD

11/2/2007
12:29 AM
dispatch notified ra's of noise complaint...3rd flr of dowden hall

2:00 AM
unit 15 states ...student center front door was unlocked and the AED box has been opened...door has been secured and aed alarmed box has been reset

2:15 AM
unit 15 states...small deliver vehicle(cart)...parked outside of the LRC dock... the stroble light was left on

11:58 AM
unit 16 dispatched to wasylean hall room 404 for a smoke detector alarm: alarm sounded due to students cooking, alarm reset

8:45 PM
unit 23 responded to smoke alarm sounding...at chartwells in the student center...unit 20 ..contacted the appropriate facilities personnel in the order specified... UPDATE// Facilities arrived 9:30 pm...checked and stated an electrician will be in to take care of it tomorrow Saturday...dirty smoke detector

10:41 PM
caller states individuals lighting sparklers in the dowden quad... dispatch notified RA's

11:45 PM
unit 33 and 18 ...responded to .... elevator stuck between floors... WFD arrived and assisted.. elevator company has been notified .....see report

11/3/2007
1:03 PM
Unit 17 received a call regarding the noise level at the football game. 17 notified the detail and they took care of it.

6:00 PM
unit 23 assisted... Chartwells production manager....to gain access..to the room of the ...office manager....to leave a package

11/4/2007
1:45 AM
unit 33 and 18 responded....RA's assisted....checked on a guest in CV 24-3

6:37 PM
dirty smoke detectors 1 outside police office in Wasylean hall and 2nd in S&T bldg south entrance vesitbule. Notified supervisor of trades. 1850 supervisor called back stating it is a non emergency will fix in the morning.

6:41 PM
23 unlocked Sull. Aud for coral practice

11/5/2007
7:30 AM
Unit 17 opening the LRC for regular scheduled hours.

9:46 AM
Unit 17 responded to a complaint about the Handicap door in the Gym building, Caola called.

10:44 AM
Unit 17 doing lockout in 15-1.

10:51 AM
Unit 32 delivering summons to C.V. resident and commuter student.

1:17PM
Unit blocked three spaces offf per Chief in the Studnet Center Lot

4:46 PM
wallet found owner notified will pick up.

7:40 PM
23 fueling cruiser #1

9:37 PM
jump start commuter student parked on may street

11/6/2007
11:48 AM
HVAC reported smoking device in work area, Unit 32 responded, tested device - negative.

5:30 PM
walk in from res life to have Maint check roof leak in W608A

6:30 PM
unit 23....assisted professor ....to gain access to office in S+T

8:20 PM
resident retrieved ...a confiscated item....from WSC PD

9:00 PM
unit 15 responded .....to Dowden hall rm 260 ...for an incident..... unfounded ...all clear

9:00 PM
unit 31 assisted java junction employees...to gain access to office in Student center... to retrieve belongings....unit 31 stood by until finished and secured office

10:10 PM
dispatch notified ...maintenance ..of water on the floor of .... dowden hall 5th flr...girls bathroom...UPDATE///..10:34 pm ...all cleaned up

10:38 PM
unit 15 states...cruiser #3...is in need of a cleanup...back seat

11:10 PM
unit 33..acknowledged lights on in the ministry house...patrolled ..RA's studying for a test

11/7/2007
1:50 AM
unit 21 found ...a camera...outside of CV5-6 on the picnic table...

2:30 AM
unit 33 and 15 responded to noise complaint...CV 15....residents have been informed

7:39 AM
unit 16 called red cab for a female student at umass campus

10:50 AM
unit 16 escorted female student from wh 408 to wh 612 while moving items from one room to the other.

7:45 PM
unit 17 .....responded to lockout... dowden hall ...rm 433

11/8/2007
9:00 AM
units 16 and 32 in chandler village court yard for a fire drill with worcester fire dept. and wsc facilities.

9:25 AM
unit 16 dispatched to chandler village 2-2 for a lockout.

11:00 AM
units 16 and 32 dispatched to the 3rd floor mens bathroom for a report of vandalism: notified facilities dept. to clean wall in bathroom.

5:00 PM
units 19 and 31 responded ...to disabled elevator...carrying one student....facilities assisted ..and will take care of proceeding... with repair and notifications ..to the proper authorities

10:17 PM
academic affairs ...handed a blurb ....to unit 19...that was posted on the lobby bulletin board of Admin village

11/9/2007
12:33 AM
units 33 and 18 assisted RA's ..... units requested unwanted guest to leave

12:38 AM
units 33,18,15,21 and 30 responded to an argument between 2 females and 1 male.....15-20 people on scene trying to break up the argument....see report

5:30 PM
unit 23 acknowledged.....shipping and receiving...loading dock door...in LRC.....was ajar....all secured

6:00 PM
unit 23 responded....repeat call....smoke alarm sounding.... wasylean hall rm 310.....cooking onions.....all clear

11/10/2007
12:05 AM
ra's requested cpo's to assist.... units 33 and 18 responded.... a report of water balloons being thrown .....from dowden hall 4th or 5th flr.....unfounded

1:45 AM
units 33 30 and 18 responded to smoke alarm sounding....dowden hall rm 442.....could not reset it.....had to take it down to silence it....dispatch notified...facilites... facilities stated .....to leave it down and will be in .....in the morning to take care of it

9:45 PM
units 14 and 19 ...reset security alarm....wasylean 1st flr rear exit

10:48 PM
RD informed CPO's..... RA's will be on duty tonight from.....10:00pm to 12:00pm

11/11/2007
7:39 AM
unit 17 met bus for the TWA trip to New York and retrieved the emergency contact forms.

3:10 PM
Unit 14 opened the weight room for work study student who requested it to be open.

6:45 PM
Unit 23 responded to a smoke detector.Burnt food. Unit 31 reset the alarm .. all clear.

11/12/2007
5:00 PM
Complaint of no heat in dowden hall. Called on call pager responded with HVAC call back will come and check area out.

5:30 PM
Unit 23 escorted skateboards off may street lot

11/13/2007
8:00 AM
Training all department personnel

1:12 PM
Unit 16 & 17 advised a small group of Linden LaRouche supporters to leave campus until they obtained the proper permission

7:34 PM
Received call from ADT alarm company stating alarm sounding in Registrars Office. Unit 31 responded, Employee accidental, Alarm Reset

11:10 PM
unit 15 states...hibachi / grill is not in front of CV 13 ???

11/14/2007
12:00 AM
unit 15 states...rear seat of cruiser # 3.....needs to be cleaned.... bodily fluid

7:55 AM
Unit 17 called to a broken lock in payroll unable to give access, caola was called

9:00 PM
unit 15 checked parking garage... all quiet....2 vehicles parked

11:10 PM
facilities requested CPO .... to assist a student....to retrieve jacket and cell phone.....left in the LRC....units 24 and 30 responded

11/15/2007
1:55 AM
resident spoke to unit 15....resident concerned about unwanted guest that is not on campus at this time.....dowden hall rm 242

10:30 AM
unit 16 assisted P2 with tow in lrc parking area: owner payed fee to unhook vehicle.

Get Lied in the Shade!

Joanna Good
Staff Writer

On November 28, 2007, the Hawaiian luau in the Student Center was a fun-filled event thanks to the SEC. Hungry? This party had plenty of free food, like Hawaiian pizza and fruit. There was a flavored sugar dispenser with fun flavors like banana, pear, and orange. To go with all this were, of course, mock-tails! Fast paced tropical music played while students tried not to fall off the mechanical surf board. Was it time to update your wardrobe? Then the tie-dye table would have been prefect. Students took their old clothes and dyed them with various colors and designs, all for free. If you needed some money, then you should have participated in the chocolate pie eating contest. There were three rounds and two pies to eat – you only needed to beat out nine other people in the first round and eventually make your way to 100 dollars. Those who didn't win still got free pie, so it was a win-win situation. Thanks to the SEC for providing students with a good time, good clothes, faux alcohol, and pie. Mmm, pie.

Looking for Good Bands?

theundergroundscene.net provides everything you need to find those great bands that are flying just below the radar. Get reviews of the latest releases, interviews, shows in your area, and much more. Also earn "scene points" by participating in the community. Sign up for your free account at **www.theundergroundscene.net**

Worcester State College Sports Standings and Schedules

Lancer Ice Hockey Schedule

11/6	Wentworth* Recap	5:30 PM	L 5-7	0-1,0-1
	UBS Tournament @ Fitchburg State			
11/9	Fitchburg State Recap	8:00 PM	L 1-7	0-2,0-1
11/10	Suffolk University Recap	4:00 PM	L 4-8	0-3,0-1
11/12	Franklin Pierce	7:30 PM	L 6-9	0-4,0-1
11/15	@ WNEC* Recap	7:10 PM	W 5-3	1-4,1-1
11/18	@ Becker College* Recap	12:45 PM	L 1-6	1-5, 1-2
11/24	@ URI (Exhibition)	7:00 PM	L 1-3	1-5, 1-2
11/26	Salem State College Recap	6:30 PM	L 2-9	1-6, 1-2
12/1	Suffolk University*	4:30 PM		
12/5	@ Fitchburg State College*	7:00 PM		
12/8	@ Johnson & Wales*	7:10 PM		
	Salem State Tournament			
12/27	vs Salem State	7:00 PM		
12/28	Championship/Consolation	4:00/7:00 PM		
1/10	@ UMass-Dartmouth*	7:30 PM		
1/20	@ Nichols College*	8:00 PM		
1/22	@ New England College	7:00 PM		
1/24	WNEC	5:30 PM		
1/26	@ Stonehill College*	2:00 PM		
1/30	@ Franklin Pierce*	7:30 PM		
2/2	@ Framingham State*	5:40 PM		
2/9	Southern New Hampshire*	7:30 PM		
2/14	Curry College*	5:30 PM		
2/19	Salve Regina University*	5:30 PM		
2/21	@ Assumption College*	7:30 PM		
2/23	Plymouth State University*	4:30 PM		

* ECAC Northeast Game

Lancer Football

9/1	@ Curry College	7:00 PM	L 26-38	0-1
9/7	WPI	7:00 PM	L 14-40	0-2
9/15	@ Nichols College	1:00 PM	W 17-10	1-2
9/22	@ Mass Maritime*	2:30 PM	W 24-7	2-2, 1-0
9/29	Framingham State*	12:00 PM	W 36-29 OT	3-2, 2-0
10/6	@ Maine Maritime*	1:00 PM	L 7-13	3-3, 2-1
10/13	Fitchburg State*	1:30 PM	W 36-21	4-3, 3-1
10/20	Coast Guard*	4:30 PM	L 10-46	4-4, 3-2
10/27	@ Bridgewater State*	1:00 PM	L 13-21	4-5, 3-3
11/3	Westfield State*	12:00 PM	L 0-7	4-6, 3-4

*NEFC Divisional Game

Women's Soccer

9/2	@ Wheaton College	1:00 PM	L 1-3	0-1
9/6	@ Clark University	6:30 PM	W 3-1	1-1
9/8	@ MIT	12:00 PM	L 2-5	1-2
9/11	WPI	7:00 PM	W 3-0	2-2
9/18	@ Plymouth State	5:00 PM	W 5-0	3-2
9/20	UMass-Boston	7:00 PM	W 5-0	4-2
9/22	Salem State College*	2:00 PM	W 2-1	5-2, 1-0
9/26	@ Middlebury College	4:00 PM	L 0-5	5-3, 1-0
9/29	@ Fitchburg State*	10:00 AM	L 0-1	5-4, 1-1
10/3	Keene State College	4:00 PM	W 3-0	6-4, 1-1
10/6	MCLA*	12:00 PM	W 2-0	7-4, 2-1
10/8	@ Framingham State*	12:00 PM	W 1-0	8-4, 3-1
10/10	#18 Western Connecticut	7:00 PM	L 0-2	8-5, 3-1
10/13	@ Bridgewater State*	12:00 PM	W 3-0	9-5, 4-1
10/16	@ Nichols College	4:00 PM	W 3-0	10-5, 4-1
10/19	Westfield State College*	7:00 PM	W 2-0	11-5, 5-1
10/23	@ UMass Dartmouth	3:30 PM	W 3-1	12-5, 5-1
10/31	MASCAC Semifinal vs #4 Bridgewater State	3:30 PM	W 1-0	13-5, 5-1
11/3	MASCAC Final vs #2 Salem State	12:00 PM	W 3-0	14-5, 5-1
11/10	NCAA 1st Round @ #5 William Smith	11:00 AM	W 2-0	15-5, 5-1
11/11	NCAA 2nd Round vs #16 Union College	1:00 PM	W 2-1	16-5, 5-1
11/10	NCAA Sectional vs Western Connecticut	1:30 PM	L 1-2 2OT	16-6, 5-1

Lancer Men's Basketball

11/16	vs Becker College	5:00 PM	W 82-72	1-0
11/17	vs WPI	3:00 PM	L 64-93	1-1
11/20	UMass Dartmouth	8:00 PM	L 65-78	1-2
11/27	@ Regis College	7:00 PM		
11/29	Clark University	7:00 PM		
12/4	@ Nichols College	8:00 PM		
	Buffalo State Tournament			
12/14	Houghton College	6:00 PM		
12/15	Championship/Consolation	2:00/4:00 PM		
	Mary Hardin-Baylor Tournament			
12/28	Mary Hardin-Baylor	8:00 PM		
12/29	Championship/Consolation	2:00/4:00 PM		
1/8	@ Becker College	7:00 PM		
1/10	Salve Regina University	7:00 PM		
1/15	@ Fitchburg State College*	7:30 PM		
1/17	@ Newbury College	7:00 PM		
1/19	Westfield State College*	4:00 PM		
1/22	@ Framingham State College*	7:30 PM		
1/26	@ MCLA*	4:00 PM		
1/29	Bridgewater State College*	8:00 PM		
2/2	@ Salem State College*	3:00 PM		
2/5	Fitchburg State College*	8:00 PM		
2/9	@ Westfield State College*	3:00 PM		
2/12	Framingham State College*	8:00 PM		
2/16	MCLA*	2:00 PM		
2/19	@ Bridgewater State College*	8:00 PM		
2/23	Salem State College*	4:00 PM		

* MASCAC Game

Lancer Women's Basketball

	Worcester City Tournament @ Clark			
11/16	vs Clark University Recap	5:00 PM	L 46-69	0-1
11/17	vs Nichols College Recap	1:00 PM	L 46-66	0-2
11/20	UMass Dartmouth Recap	6:00 PM	L 67-74	0-3
	NYU Tournament			
11/24	Wesley College	3:00 PM	L 54-63	0-4
11/25	New York University Recap	3:00 PM	L 55-90	0-5
11/29	@ Trinity College	5:30 PM		
12/5	Babson College	7:00 PM		
12/8	@ Mt. Holyoke College	1:00 PM		
12/29	@ George Fox	7:00 PM		
1/9	Eastern Connecticut	7:00 PM		
1/12	Springfield College	2:00 PM		
1/15	@ Fitchburg State College*	5:30 PM		
1/19	Westfield State College*	2:00 PM		
1/22	@ Framingham State College*	5:30 PM		
1/24	@ Tufts University	7:00 PM		
1/26	@ MCLA*	2:00 PM		
1/29	Bridgewater State College*	6:00 PM		
2/2	@ Salem State College*	1:00 PM		
2/5	Fitchburg State College*	6:00 PM		
2/9	@ Westfield State College*	1:00 PM		
2/12	Framingham State College*	6:00 PM		
2/14	@ Salve Regina University	7:00 PM		
2/16	MCLA*	4:00 PM		
2/19	@ Bridgewater State College*	6:00 PM		
2/23	Salem State College*	2:00 PM		

* MASCAC Game

Girls B-Ball Breakfast

Liz Malone
Contributor

On November 15, the Worcester State College's Women's basketball team came together to introduce the team members and preview the upcoming season. The breakfast introduced and welcomed the freshmen from Massachusetts and New Hampshire: Kristina Beningo (Hudson, NH), Morgan Crawford (Barre, MA), Kathleen Foley (Hudson, NH), Alexis George (Worcester, MA), and Rebecca Giguerre (W. Brookfield, MA). They also welcomed the new junior transfer, Natasha Dallas (Roxbury, MA). Head Coach, Karen Tessmer, presented a highlight film, including memorable pictures of the girls from the previous season. The photographs showed team spirit and a sense of unity. Lessmer handed out t-shirts with the logo, "New Team: Same Dream", demonstrating the team's message and what they want out of the season.

Coach Lessmer stated that it is a "rebuilding year," because of the many hardships they have already encountered so early in the season. Captain Maureen Lemay, with a broken ankle (one out of the three major injuries), still has faith in her team. She explained that the team has trained for many weeks and while they lack in depth, they make up in speed. The freshmen this year are going to play a major role in the season. With five freshmen and one transfer, Worcester State proves that although a young team, in they are obviously in the early stages of evolving into a successful one.

A major aspect to the Worcester State Women's basketball team involves team bonding and unity. Over the summer, the school had the girls partake in a summer league, ending the summer session with a family cookout. Along with this gathering, the team had a pot-lock dinner and participated in Frisbee golf. They participated in pre-season conditioning, four days a week from September to December, while also attending study hall, where the girls do their homework together and focus on their grades. "Chemistry off the court translates onto the court," says Coach. In order to have a successful team, the women must get along and learn how to work with each other.

This month the girls traveled to New York to visit Manhattan and NYU, where they played against challenging teams. Over Christmas break, the team will travel to Oregon, where they will play George Fox University. These trips build the team's confidence and experience, preparing them for the difficult season ahead, and for the dream of becoming MASCAC champions.

With all these factors in mind, go support the Worcester State Women's basketball team, and witness the fresh faces and the seniors' (Maureen Lemay, Jamara Exilus, and Lindsay DelleChiaie) last year on the court. Go and cheer – it will most definitely inspire them to succeed!

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Shout Rock Radio Rocks Tammany Hall Page 5

Fitchburg Falcons fly over Lancers 78-73 Page 8

The Student Voice

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Thomas Appointed Head of NEBHE

Liz Malone
Staff Writer

When the New England Board of Higher Education looked at Worcester State College's Dr. Michael K. Thomas's qualifications for the new president and CEO of the nonprofit association, they knew he would be a perfect fit. On January 16, 2008, the NEBHE selected Thomas, WSC's Trustee and Vice Chair as their new leader for the six state organization. Thomas's past proves why they choose him for this prestigious job. His resume entails a background in corporate training and human resources, where he held administrative positions in public and private colleges and universities. This in mind, WSC president, Dr. Janelle Ashley proclaimed, "We are so proud. Michael will bring invigorated leadership to the board and do great work."

Before taking over the outgoing president Dr. Evan S. Dobelle, Thomas served as Vice President, where he directed NEBHE's policy, research and programmatic activities. Here, he centered his attention on improving education. He wanted to expand innovative K-12, postsecondary and life-long learning policies. Thomas looked at encouraging the relationship between leaders in business, government and education. In order to develop success for the residents of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont, Thomas created the College Ready New England initiative for NEBHE. This would allow students to prepare themselves adequately for college and the success they want out of their experience.

Thomas's impressive educational background shows his initiative to increase the quality of education in New England. First, he received his bachelor's degree in philosophy at Brigham Young University. Thomas furthered his education at Teachers College, Columbia University, where he received his master's degree. Soon, Harvard gave him his doctorate in education and social policy. To top it off, he attended Boston University to receive his M.B.A. As many can see, Thomas' educational background and experience makes him a well chosen representative for NEBHE. Dr. Evan S. Dobelle said, "I find Michael Thomas to have extraordinary talent, and I know he will do an outstanding job leading New England Board of Higher Education."

In 1955, the NEBHE was established and congressionally authorized, in order to spread a sense of support throughout New England's higher educational institutions. Over the years, the number of colleges and universities a part of NEBHE, as risen to 270. They all participate in communicating with each other and furthering economic development. Mary R. Cathcart added to the praise of Michael Thomas joining NEBHE and the enthusiasm she has for him keeping the tradition of this excellent establishment; "It's an exciting time for NEBHE, we look forward to Dr. Thomas successfully continuing the work of the board."

Who's Who At Worcester State

Megan Montgomery

"Would you like a lollipop?" asks an ebullient Dennis Lindblom, pointing to a blue M&M candy jar which greets incoming visitors with a raised hand. "They go quickly, but I always try to keep a full stash."

Amidst the prattle of deafening voices and hammering of feet in Worcester State College's Student Center, one is imminently lured towards a tiny corner office from which soft piano music emanates.

Since 1993, Lindblom has served as the Director of Disability Services, an office which caters to over 130 students who face learning impairments of either a physical or mental nature. From accommodating extra time on tests, to providing assistance in selecting classes, Lindblom is a leading advocate for the learning disabled of Worcester State College.

Typing away furiously on his computer; Lindblom heaves a sigh, "Pre-advising week is always so crazy. It's been a long day, but what can you do?" he says with an exhausted chuckle. He isn't joking. The clock sitting on Lindblom's desk reads 7 p.m. Corridors have become eerily quiet and the average employee has long departed home for the day. Lindblom continues on with his work by the light of the full moon which hangs high above his window.

It is this unwavering dedication to students, and to his profession that have won him such high acclaim at Worcester State College -- as well as the loving aggravation of his wife, Eugenie.

"She just called, and yelled at me to come home. Today is our anniversary. It's been 36 years," Lindblom beams, rubbing his eyes; his gaze then falling upon one of the many pictures of his family that adorns the quiet office.

His wife, whom he affectionately refers to as Genie, is a striking woman of Lebanese ancestry. "I guess I just had an attraction to Mediterranean girls because I was always surrounded by the blonde, blue-eyed girls from my Swedish culture," reflects Lindblom.

The whirlwind relationship of Genie and Lindblom trumps the plot of any old clichéd war romance. During the Vietnam War, a time when many were drafted, Lindblom found himself among the masses of reluctant young men being shipped off to fight in a war where no one was certain of the reasons. During the thirteen months he spent in Vietnam, Genie and Lindblom corresponded through letters. They had dated before, but decided it was best to remain friends during his time overseas. She would prove harder to forget than Lindblom cared to admit.

He then opens up one of his desk draws and starts digging through it. "I never told her I had this, it's sort of embarrassing really."

He pulls out a laminated sheet of paper which reads the name: Eugenie. The letters of her name are composed of different colors and each contains a number. Every day Lindblom served in Vietnam, he colored in a piece of her name, and added the day he had been serving. When his time serving had finished her name had fully been spelled out.

He vividly recalls arriving in Vietnam. "It was scary. The first night fifty-two rockets hit our base camp; four GI's died. I just remember praying to God as hard as I could.

On the wall of his office hangs a portrait of a man working in a rice field. "I got that on a street corner in Saigon for cheap. Everything was really inexpensive there."

Lindblom is referring as well to the overabundance of drugs available to the soldiers -- something he is proud to have steered clear of. "So many still suffer the after effects of that war. You sort of think, wow; that could have just as easily been me."

Who, continued on page 7

Creating A Climate of Change

Allison Domanowski
Staff Writer

On January 31st, the Blue Lounge was packed with eager students and professors ready to hear another speech on global warming. Well, maybe some were there to obtain class credit, hence the chairs and floor both covered with students at the first presentation at 8:30 in the morning. By the end of the speech, most were blown away and left speechless by this less than ordinary presentation, given by Professor Allison Dunn.

"Looking at the future is very complicated," began Dunn as a PowerPoint presentation played behind her. Throughout the speech she emphasized that global warming really depends upon the actions that society takes today to cut gas emissions.

Dunn hit close to home when she began to speak about the changes that New England has already seen, compared to the rest of the world. Since 1978, New England temperatures have risen two degrees Fahrenheit and overall winter temperatures have risen four degrees within the past thirty-eight years, Dunn explained, adding that this pattern is expected to continue.

"Some warming will happen regardless of the actions that we take, but how much warming depends upon us," she said. Research shows that heat waves are predicted to increase in frequency whether or not humans take steps to reduce gas emissions. Higher temperatures mean an increase in heat-related illnesses, which have drastic effects on the weak and elderly.

With these rising temperatures, Dunn said that places such as coastal South Carolina can expect to have about ten days a year with temperatures over ninety degrees. She went on, saying that increases in temperature mean that electrical capacities will need to increase to support higher summertime loads due to air conditioning.

Dunn believes that the temperatures will also amount to a lot less snow by the year 2070 and on, with flow and water supplies being impacted drastically. Though many may rejoice that the economy is helped through winter sports and with decreasing snow falls, however our economy is going to pay the ultimate price, according to Dunn.

Global warming will have intangible consequences on many things that people take for granted. It is predicted that maple production will decrease and that sugar maples will vertically disappear by the end of the century.

Accompanying the presentation was a handout on simple tips and actions that people can take to help stop the spread of global warming, and save on their energy bills at the same time. The tips ranged from switching to fluorescent light bulbs, washing laundry in cold water, to inflating your tires to the higher end to save on gas and consolidating automobile trips by combining activities. The sheet suggests that all the tips make a difference in this fight against global warming and that one person can make a difference. The top of the handout sheet said it best; *No matter how big the problem seems, individual choices are a critical part of the solution.*

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THE VOICE

Worcester State College's Student Newspaper

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The Student Voice of Worcester State College

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The Student Voice welcomes letters, essays, and articles provided they are typed and are submitted with a name and means to contact the author. Any pieces that are deemed questionable are brought before the executive board. In the event of a tie the Editor-in-Chief has final decision. Letters run at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief and are subject to editing for style and length. The Editor reserves the right to republish any works at their discretion.

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From the Desk of: The Editor in Chief

The first word I had ever heard come out of Deval Patrick's mouth was education. It doesn't take much to get me interested in a charismatic speaker who talks about education as a priority, and it didn't take much to get me interested in Patrick's candidacy as governor of Massachusetts. I thought his campaign slogan, "Together We Can," was cute, but slogans never held much water for me. If we can improve education together, count me on the team.

It's now becoming plainly obvious what we can do together, and one must wonder who was meant by "We."

On January 17 Worcester State College issued a press release announcing that Dr. Michael K. Thomas, who had served as the vice chairman of the WSC Board of Trustees (which would be more aptly known as the Gaggle of the Silent Nine) has been appointed to serve as interim president of the New England Board of Higher Education (NEBHE). In its meeting in November of 2007 Dr. Thomas was one of the nine members of the Board of Trustees who said nothing during its meeting where it decided that campus police should be armed.

This unaccountable board instituted a policy based on some one-half inch thick paper presentation which had less than one-half page of arguments contrary to the position advocated by the college's administration. That was the only contradictory evidence that was considered according to the materials "Together we can" continue made available to the Voice via a Public Records Law request.

During this Board of Trustees meeting Dr. Thomas said nothing, as did eight of his colleagues. In filings related to a complaint filed in Worcester Municipal Court by four WSC faculty members (see Voice 12-03-07), every member of the Gaggle signed a sworn statement claiming no debate had taken place behind closed doors, as that would contradict Massachusetts "Open Meeting Law."

We should take their word for it. They debated nothing. The "everyone else is doing it" argument was enough evidence for the Silent Nine.

As should be expected by anyone who has grown up in the Commonwealth, the State loves leaders without leadership skills whose spinelessness and desire for self promotion cause them to placate those in positions of power rather than show an iota of the American trait of questioning and overseeing power. In pristine Massachusetts fashion, Dr. Thomas has now been appointed to a prestigious position leading NEBHE.

I now see what we can do together.

"Together We Can" continue to perpetuate the cancer of political patronage that has plagued government in the Commonwealth for what seems like forever. rampant cronyism and nepotism in the Commonwealth. Together we can make career advancement in public education in the Commonwealth look like its being overseen by the nomenklatura.

It feels like it wasn't all that long ago that we had a governor who was too busy campaigning for President of the United States to be an effective governor. For the last few weeks it seems like we traded Mitt Romney, who was pretty open about the fact that he has contempt for public education, for Governor Patrick, who talks a big game about education while his actions seem like his priority is campaigning for a cabinet spot in a potential Obama administration.

Expecting Governor Patrick to be different was purely naïve.

With leadership like what comes out of the State House, it should be no wonder why we have leaders without leadership skills, appointed by the governor's office, sitting on the Board of Trustees of Worcester State College.

No leader makes a decision without discussion or debate. If there was no discussion, there was no leadership. If there is no leadership, then there should be no confidence in the corner office of this college, nor in the board of trustees, nor in the state house.

Thomas W. Marino III
Editor in Chief

When is Force Necessary?

Worcester State College police officers are currently armed with fire arms. Every officer, with the exception of one currently awaiting approval of the appropriate license, was presented a department issued Glock .40 caliber model 23 pistol on January 13, 2008.

The forty-five page Standard Operating Procedure Manual for the use of firearms as well as Oleoresin Capsicum (pepper spray), the baton, handcuffs, and general use of force are posted at http://wwwfac.worcester.edu/cp/SidearmPoliciesComplete.pdf.

According to the SOP Manual, the use of lethal force is permitted:

"a. To defend the officer or another person from what the officer reasonably believes to be the use or imminent use of lethal physical force.

b. To effect an arrest or prevent the escape from custody of a person whom he or she reasonably believes has committed or is attempting to commit a felony which involved the infliction or threatened infliction of serious physical injury;

c. Where feasible, he or she has given warning of his or her intent to use lethal physical force; and

d. The officer reasonably believes this person still poses an IMMINENT threat of serious physical injury or lethal physical force to the officer or a third person."

The policy calls for the Worcester Police, Massachusetts State Police and on-call college administrators to be notified "in the event that the use of force involves death or injury."

How'd You Like Them Interns?

To describe the interview as "uncomfortable" would be an understatement. While riding the elevator up to the third floor of the corner office building, a building that was undoubtedly on the "wrong side of town," I had carefully contemplated what to say to my soon-to-be supervisor. I'll introduce myself with confidence and list off one by one my academic achievements. I'll tell her how deeply I appreciate the opportunity and how grateful I am. As a writer, I suppose a little exaggeration couldn't hurt. I wanted to be there, don't get me wrong. I was an intern, a hopeful college junior with "I need more references and resume boosters" written on my forehead. A few official publications wouldn't hurt either. And I'm pleasant, hard working; there is no way that this couldn't work out to my benefit.

The first thing I noticed after stepping out of the elevator and through the door labeled "Journalism Hell" was the secretary sitting aimlessly at her desk. She was flipping through the pages of a fashion magazine, one bare shoulder poking through the knitted puke colored sweater she was wearing in hopes of looking just as good as Gisele on page 17. I was quiet, and she didn't notice me standing there. So I waited. I stared at the carpet with its crop-circle of stains and the "kitchen" area that reeked of Lean Cuisine and burned coffee. "Can I help you?" Her voice was pinched. I could tell she didn't want to help me. Instead of answering, I outright stared at the top of her fleshy head. There, perfectly straight, as if a ruler had been used to measure each section, were race tracks etched into the one inch hairs growing from her scalp. "Um, hello?" I was distracted, obviously. I imagined tiny knits, lice racers in buggies beeping at each other from track to track. Did they lead somewhere, the tracks, that is? Were the lice living in her brain too? What if it's a whole knit city, do the tracks lead to the back of her head or into her ears? Do they have jobs, the knits? Do they have families and houses? Are those tracks, like main highways into the cerebral cortex, the control center for lice engineers? "Excuse me! Can I help you with something?" Back to reality. "I'm looking for Caroline. I'm the new –" she held up a fat finger, the talon-like nail was the color of Pepto-Bismol, and said, "Intern, I know. Hold on a sec." As she picked up the phone, I heard another ring in the back. "She'll be out in a minute, just wait here."

Caroline, pronounced Car-O-line, not Car-O-lyn, lumbered out the side of her cubicle. At first glance, I was scared. Not afraid in the "my-boss-is-an-intimidating-Nazi" kind of way, but rather, "my-boss-looks-like-the-greeter-at-Wal-Mart." I suddenly felt way over-dressed. I was told by my advisor and mother to always look professional, but I could now see that my dress-casual attire would be out of place in this office. As she approached I held out my hand and smiled. Always introduce yourself with a smile, it's your best accessory. "Hi, I'm Jackie, the new intern." Caroline did not smile, and she did not shake my hand. "Oh, no, um, we're very laid-back here, there's no need for fussy introductions." Okay, what should I have said to that? Am I now just supposed to throw all of my manners, learned behaviors and appropriate welcoming gestures down the toilet? Flush. There they go.

Car-O-line then led the way, not escorted, but led the way into an unoccupied room in the corner of the office. Piles of last week's issues covered the conference table. The window faced a brick building, and I noticed the sun, that had been shining only minutes before I entered the building, was hiding behind gray clouds. Caroline didn't shut the door. She didn't sit down. She still didn't smile. She brushed a few crumbs off of her beige crocheted sweater and adjusted her glasses. "So, what, do I need to sign something?" And that was all. There were no trick questions. Apparently, she wasn't concerned about my dedication, my dream of becoming a writer, or the fact that I had made the dean's list every semester. "Sure." Signing the registration form in doctor's chicken scratch, she bobbed her head up and down and grunted. Looking back, I think that meant she approved of my hourly plan of action for the next four months. "Uh, I wasn't sure exactly when you wanted me to start, so is there a specific day or time that you'd like me to come in?" I knew my question would be answered vaguely, I could already tell Caroline wasn't into specifics. She rolled her eyes and in monotone said, "Uh, yeah. Well, you're the only intern we've got right now, so we're in dire need of help in A&E. The sooner the better basically. How 'bout you just e-mail me and let me know what you're comfortable with?" And that was that. I nodded in agreement. She left the room. I half-whispered an embarrassed goodbye to the secretary and entered the elevator. I knew then it was going to be a long semester.

Jackie Morrill

SGA Auction

Dana Lyford
Student Center/ Student Activities Intern

On Thursday, March 6 Worcester State College's Student Senate will hold it's annual S.G.A Auction to Benefit the Homeless and Children in Need. This auction has raised over $20,000 in the past and has proven to be a huge success in helping out the three organizations to which the money is donated. All of the proceeds from the auction are to benefit the Worcester community and are donated to three organizations in the area: The Mustard Seed, Abby's House and Sherry's House.

Since the first year our school has held this auction, the S.G.A has raised and donated over $120,000.00 to the Mustard Seed and Abby's House. The Mustard Seed Foundation of Worcester provides food and emergency services for the city's homeless and also runs summer programs for children. Abby's House is a local shelter for women. Last year a third organization was added to benefit from our auction, Sherry's House. Sherry's House is a place where kids and their families from all over the Central New England community can come and receive the social, emotional, logistical, educational and financial support they need, day in and day out, to overcome childhood cancer.

This year's auction will be held on March 6, 2008 in the Student Center's Blue Lounge and Exhibit Area. The silent auction will go from 11a.m.-2p.m in the Exhibit Area. There will be a preview for the live auction beginning at 4:30p.m. and the real auction will commence at 5:30p.m. in the Blue Lounge. March 8, 2008 will be the snow date for this event.

Some exciting items already available are autographed sports memorabilia and Red Sox tickets. For more information regarding the auction feel free to call the Student Senate at 508-929-8655 or email them at sgaauction@worcester.edu.

Tax Season Questions, WSC Has Answers

Matt Brown
Staff Writer

Having trouble doing your taxes? Worcester State College is offering a free course to help all students with their tax filing woes.

Now in its fourth consecutive year, ST: Taxes and Inequality is a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) program course, certified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). The course is taught primarily by Professor Timothy Hagopian with additional instruction by Colleen Buckley of the IRS and Corey Dolgon for lecture.

VITA is a free program designed to provide tax help to low to moderate income people who earn, generally, under $40,000 a year.

The EITC is a credit program available to working taxpayers with lower annual incomes. One in four people who qualify for the EITC program do not place their claim because they do not know the program exists.

Professor Hagopian says the problem arises from students and families not filing for taxes "thinking there is no point if there is no refund, due to no withholdings, but not realizing they qualify for free money (EITC) for being low-income and working [taxpayers]."

The Worcester EITC Coalition was created five years ago to raise awareness in the Worcester colleges of the benefits from claiming for the EITC.

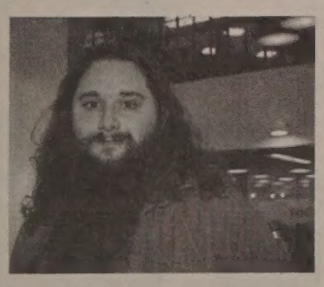
According to Professor Hagopian, the amount of students taking part in the program has steadily grown, "We had just over 100 students the first year, just over 200 the second year and just over 300 the third year. We expect to have about 400 this year."

Students can register for the class through the Registrar office. The course is free to the public and includes tax filing and text books but is not a credited course. The option for the course to be credited is available through payment as with other credited courses.

For more information about the course contact timothy. hagopian@worcester.edu.

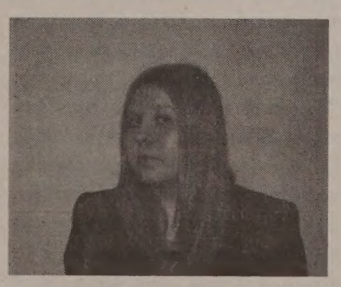
VOICE OFF!
Who's Worcester State Voting For?

By: Joanna Good

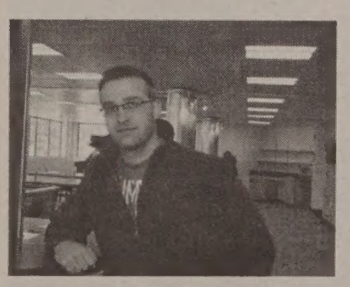


Warren Huber: "Hilary, Obama, and McCain would each make an excellent president."

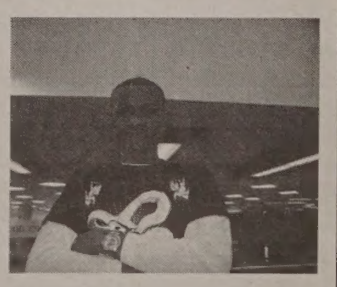
Sarah Keddy: "Hilary because I would like a woman president and i believe she can help fix the economy."



Kristyn Branisel: "I would vote for Barack Obama because I think he's serious about change. He gives great hope to our country."

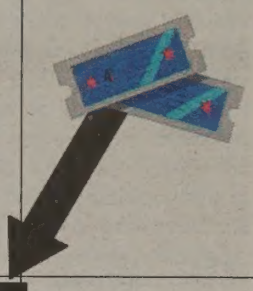
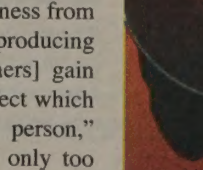
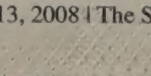


Justin Johnson: "I would chose Obama or McCain. I'd pick Obama because he's a good speaker and I would pick McCain because he has liberal values."



Ibrahim Comara: "I would chose Obama, not because I'm black and he's also black but simply because I believe he's going to bring a lot of change in this country."

February Student Activities Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					**5** TWA Black History Breakfast, Sull T, 9am-11am SEC All Nighter: Student Center, Video games, pizza Bouncing Boxing, Movies, Breakfast 10pm-2am	**2** SC/SA Coffeehouse: Ben Carroll SHL 8-11pm
3 SC/SA: Make a Fleece Scarf 2-4pm, SHL Catholic Mass 6pm, DHL	**4** SEC Movie: "American Gangster" SHL, 7pm	**5** SEC Movie: "American Gangster" OLP, 1pm	**6** Ash Wednesday Worship 12:30pm, BL SEC Hump Day Ha Ha: Comedian N/S, 8:30pm	**7** Senior Trip: Hard Rock & Comedy Connection 4:15pm bus	**8** SC/SA: Think You Know Movies Gameshow, N/S 7pm	**9** TWA & Class of 2010: A Night in Chocolate City Ea, 10pm-2am
10 Worcester Consortium Emerging Leaders Conference 10am, Assumption College Catholic Mass 6pm, DHL	**11** OL Apps Available in Counseling Services & Student Activities	**12** Study Abroad Fair EA, 10am-3pm SC/SA: Art Party 7pm, EA	**13** TWA Speaker: Dr. West, Sullivan Auditorium, 7pm SEC Hump Day Harmony 8:30pm, BL	**14** ***Valentine's Day***	**15** 	**16** Campus Ambassadors Seek and Go Hide, 8-10pm Off Campus O
17 	**18** **President's Day- No Classes**	**19** ODK Poster Sale Exhibit Area 10am-4pm	**20** 10:30am-2:30pm CSO:Commuters, Caricatures, & Candy LR 	**21** 11am & 2pm Pool & Ping Pong Tourney L. Room	**22** Class Officers: Mr. Woo State Contest, 7pm, EA	**23**
24 Catholic Mass 6pm, DHL	**25** 	**26** Senior Portraits South Aud, 11am-6pm CSO: Off Campus Housing Fair EA, 11am-1pm	**27** 11-6, Senior Portraits, S. Aud, 11:30am: Darryl Davis Lecture, BL SEC & SC/SA: Battle of the Brains 7pm, BL	**28** 	**29** SC/SA: Fear Factor OLP, 8pm	

♥ Class of 2011 Valentine's Day Raffle: Various tables in the Student Center all week! ♥

Abbreviations

BL: Blue Lounge
OLP: One Lancer Place
SC: Student Center
SHL: Seven Hills Lounge
LR: Living Room
N/S: North/South Auditorium
DHL: Dowden Hall Lounge
EA: Exhibit Area
ST: Science & Tech Building
Sull T: Sullivan T
SC/SA: Student Center/Student Activities Office
CSO: Commuter Services Office

Ben Carroll is "The Real Thing"

Jacqueline Morrill
Staff Writer

Just as he exclaims in the title track of his second soul inspired album, Ben Carroll is "The Real Thing." He graced the stage of WSC's Acoustic Lounge last Saturday and showed off his new folky-pop-soul sounds with an ambitious set list and an intimate audience.

The singer/songwriter Ben Carroll has music in his blood as the son of members of the 1976 Grammy winning Starland Vocal band. In regards to any added pressure due to his musical roots, he happily states, "My family is my family first and very supportive, so in my case, no, there is no added pressure." Carroll's love for music however wasn't entirely influenced by his musician family, "Lots of experiences along the way made it slowly clear that this is the right path for me." He continues, "It was mainly the quality of relationships and experiences that I found myself having while making music."

In the fashion of a true musician, Carroll classifies his music in terms of, "Honestly, mine," but in terms of labeling, Carroll's melodic folk and soul songs are a mixture of playful beats and an almost cliché sincerity. His lyrical inspirations draw upon everyday life, Carroll says, "I just open the doors and see what's there, truly." But the doors Carroll has been opening are very different compared to those that are frozen shut and surrounded by slush in Worcester. Carroll has been touring with the likes of John Legend since he was signed to Orchid Music in October of 2007 and has since been traveling around the globe. "The French Alps in Switzerland are breathtaking," he says, "so is Ireland. But ever since playing with one of my first bands, Baraka, in Philadelphia, that city has had a special place in my heart. I've always felt that town had a lot of soul."

Breaking into the music business is tough for anyone and there are thousands of garage bands and acoustic folk singers playing there hearts out at open-mics around the world. Carroll admits that his fight was like anyone else's, despite the connections he had in music already, "It's a process," he confesses "there really is no 'inside' or 'outside', after a while you see that you're just doing your thing." Once Carroll was signed however, even more doors were opened, "I welcomed it as a cool new aspect of the music-making machine," he says. "Also, the people at Orchid Music are wonderful so I've been happy to enjoy their friendship."

The soul-singing musician hopes that fans and new listeners will gain just as much happiness from his album as he had producing it. "I hope they [listeners] gain any kind of positive affect which music can provide a person," Carroll continues "I'm only too happy and honored to provide it."

Shout Rock Radio Explode onto the Scene

Matt Brown
Staff Writer

Meandering down the darkened side streets of downtown Worcester, I hear the echoes of an indie rock act reverberate out of the Tammany Hall bar.

Local boys *Shout Rock Radio* are about to play an anticipated follow-up show to their Next Big Thing concert at the Palladium.

Shout Rock Radio is a four piece band comprised of Chris Mullins on vocals and piano, Ryan Moen on guitar, Sean Morang on bass guitar and Aaron Antanavica on drums.

Singer and songwriter Mullins takes the audience on a tour de force through ballads of lost love in "Let You Go" to pop sing-alongs of "The One That Got Away". Mullins is a modern day balladeer and true frontman that instinctively knows how to connect with his audience.

Antanavica, a student at Worcester State College along with Moen, describes the maturity of the band by saying, "this is the strongest the band has ever been with our current four piece effort."

The band has gone through many stages and members since their formation in 2002. Progressing from a punk rock act to a now pop rock act, Shout Rock Radio have an eclectic mix of influences from The Beatles to Blink 182 and hardcore to classic rock. Such range in influence greatly adds to the many facets in the band's sound.

Shout Rock Radio has played numerous local venues including the Palladium, the Atrium, Club Marquis, the Frohsinn Club and now Tammany Hall.

The band will be returning to the studio on February 9th to record four new tracks at Sharp Recording Studio. They're also in the early stages of planning to take their act on the road, "right now we're building a big fan-base, booking a lot of shows and plan to do an east coast tour this summer" says Antanavica and Morang.

And as the boys sign off with a parting "Thank you for coming out tonight guys," the house lights come up, the handshakes come out, and the bar toasts to another successful show.

Catch Shout Rock Radio's next performance at the Tammany Hall on Sunday, February 17th.

Looking for Good Bands?

theundergroundscene.net provides everything you need to find those great bands that are flying just below the radar. Get reviews of the latest releases, interviews, shows in your area, and much more. Also earn "scene points" by participating in the community. Sign up for your free account at **www.theundergroundscene.net**

Untraceable is Unworthy at the Box Office

Jackie Morrill
Staff Writer

With a tagline like "A cyber killer has finally found the perfect accomplice: You," I expected there to be more mystery, more twist, more oomph, but as far as the recent cyber-stalker release *Untraceable* goes, unpredictability is not it's strong suit.

Fans of Diane Lane will be happy. She's still pretty. She's still smart. But her acting is a bit to be desired. I believed her as a serial cheater in *Unfaithful*. I believed her as the recently divorced pre-school teacher in *Must Love Dogs*, but as an FBI cyber-cop, not so much. One minute she's watching a kitten being slowly killed on her uber-computer, and the next she's watching her best friend (played by the awkwardly gawky Colin Hanks, whose father's acting genes obviously didn't pass down to the next generation) die in a tank of battery fluid. With each piece of skin that falls off of his body, her face is unchanging. I couldn't help but wonder: is she is still watching that poor kitty-cat die or her partner in crime?

One of the better parts of the film are the actual killing scenes, which, in comparison to the *Saw* movies is like watching someone pull a sliver out of their toe, but because the suspense is so low in *Untraceable*, you have to settle for B grade gore. The killer is inventive, I'd give him that. Cementing someone's hands and feet into the floor and then melting them with increasing levels of UV rays is kind of gross. And the hemophilia-inspired death of another man leads to some serious bleeding within a number of hours. The creative catch of the movie, of which I'm surprised to report hasn't been done before, is that the internet users of the actual "Kill With Me" web-page cause the deaths. And so, in light of Jig Saw, the killer can wash his hands clean of any actual massacring. Clever, eh?

The murdering website inventor however, played by the somewhat familiar Joseph Cross (from *Running with Scissors* and *Strangers with Candy*), is convincing enough for both him and Diane Lane combined. His calm and collected outward appearance throughout the violent, not to mention gross and painful, deaths is astounding. It is with the innocent appeal of a shy and intelligent twenty year old that Cross portrays the disturbed cyber-maniac. After the suicide of his father and the immense coverage it received on Snuff-like websites and podcasts, Cross decides to show America what death really looks like, and in turn is hunted down by agent Marsh (the disappointing Diane Lane). The cat and mouse game lasts way longer than it should, an hour and forty minutes, and ends with just as much predictability as it had in the beginning. On a five star scale, I'd give a two.

Strutting down a Runway All Her Own:

Sasha Fastovskiy
Associate Editor

She isn't one to emulate the likes of Coco and neither is she content to stand outside of Tiffany's in a little black dress, scarfing down pastries. Instead she forges her own fashion filled path – in her trademark chestnut and khaki Coach high-tops. "I am just Sasha," she says frankly. And that will more than suffice.

Fastovskiy has been named associate editor for The Voice, but her dedication and professional experience behind the scenes has made her an invaluable member to the staff long since then.

She kick started her career in writing when she accepted an internship as a freshman at Pulse, Worcester's lifestyle and entertainment magazine. Fastovskiy's expertise: fashion, of course.

In less than a year she has climbed the chain of command steadily, rising from an eager intern to the position of assistant to the editor.

Since she was young, Fastovskiy has always been instilled with a 'can do' attitude. Born in Kiev Ukraine, she was brought up in a strict Russian household. Her father was an engineer, her mother the CEO of a hospital equal to the size of Brigham and Woman's. Both grew up after the time of World War II when hostility towards Jews was commonplace. Her mother, who could have equated to the next Christiane Amanpour, was forced to leave her aspirations for writing in the past due to her very Jewish last name. Writing has always been in Fastovskiy's blood.

A teacher first realized her talent for writing in the fourth grade when a book report was assigned to the class. While many students groaned, Fastovskiy worked diligently and passed in the final product – only to be accused of cheating. While Fastovskiy denied the accusation, the teacher assigned an in-class writing assignment meant exclusively to test the likes of Fastovskiy. She passed with ease and today her teacher still uses her book report as a model for students.

As for her future career in writing, even Fastovskiy is unsure herself. "Like anything, you love it till you don't. I don't even know what I am going to wear tomorrow, oh wait. Yes I do," she laughs.

While she is reluctant to talk about her writing, fashion is a whole different arena. "I like putting things together. Stealing an outfit from a mannequin is not fashion; that's copying."

Her silver Tiffany earrings glimmer from behind her long and wavy cinnamon hair, which falls in layers around her face. Many traditionalists would think her purple bag clashes with her brown and yellow plaid coat and navy blue skinny jeans. Only the fashion forward would be able to grasp the avant-garde taste in Fastovskiy's one-of-a-kind style. And as for her piece de resistance; it's all about playing up her large, doe-like eyes.

Fastovskiy's personalized style is gathered from all manner of places. "H&M is like my own personal heaven, but you can find me at Marshalls and Loehmann's as well," she gushes, divulging her shopping hotspots.

Fastovskiy doesn't follow any of the fashion shows or count herself among the cult following of America's Next Top Model watchers. Instead, she opts for reading books on the history of fashion. "Many say they love Chanel or Louis Vuitton, because they are so commercial in fashion, but how many actually know the background, how they came about, or the face behind the label?"

Hardly standing above five feet, the petite fashionista brings together the worlds of haute couture and writing – while managing to look impeccably fabulous – all in the nick of time. Fastovskiy doesn't live by hackneyed quotes or the euphemisms of fashion icons; she instead strikes a pose that is distinctly, in her own words: Sasha.

Everyone's Favorite Golden Girl: A Closer Look at Betty White

Allison Domanowski
Staff Writer

Well known and loved for her acting, Betty White began her career in 1949. She played man-hungry Sue Ann Nivens on The Mary Tyler Moore Show and later, the naïve Rose Nylund on The Golden Girls. A rare appearance-maker in today's television world, she has a far more important priority, one that from an early age; her love and devotion to animals, which began with her father, Horace White, who had 26 dogs at one point. Nowadays, you can see the white-haired White in commercials for 1800-Pet Meds, but her trail of four-legged kindness goes way back.

"My mother and father loved animals deeply and taught me not only to love them, but to appreciate their tremendous variety, I just find them endless fascinating," she said in an interview for A & E Television Networks. Throughout her career as an actress, she has always been one to speak out on behalf of furry creatures, and with 26 years of service to the Morris Animal Foundation under her belt, she's proud to know that the organization helped to develop the feline leukemia vaccine for cats and the parvo virus vaccine for dogs.

White had dreamed of becoming a forest ranger, but fell in love with acting instead. During the 1940's, she skipped college to follow this dream, the only thing slowing her down was two failed marriages. Her second marriage – to game show host Allen Ludden, whom she met as a celebrity contestant on the TV game show Password – was particularly unfortunate. He was diagnosed with terminal stomach cancer and passed away in 1981. At this very depressing time in her life, White remained strong and continued her career, not allowing it to stand in her way of acting or being an animal rights activist.

Just a few of her works after 1981 include her own game show called Just Men in 1983, and the smash hit The Golden Girls from 1985-1992. During the 1980's and 1990's White also played roles in a variety of TV programs and guest starred on others including; Ally McBeal, The Ellen Show, My Wife and Kids, That 70s Show, Everwood, and Malcolm in the Middle.

White is also the recipient of many Emmy awards including Outstanding Lead Actress, Outstanding Hostess in a Game Show, Outstanding Supporting Actress and Outstanding Guest Actress. While her numerous awards and TV appearances are often hard to count, one thing that has remained strong throughout her career is her love of animals. Betty has worked for a variety of animal organizations such as the Los Angeles Zoo Commission, the Morris Animal Foundation, Actors & Others for Animals, and The Rwanda Mountain Gorilla Project.

Despite her busy lifestyle as an actress and animal rights activist, White never let her age – she's 86 -- stand in her way of achieving her dreams. While not giving much thought to exercising or trying to fight aging, White believes that it is her pets that have kept her young. She currently has a Shih Tzu named Panda, a Himalayan cat named Bob Cat; and a golden retriever named Kitta.

"You better realize how good life is while it's happening," she said in an interview for Time Magazine, "because before you know it, it will all be gone,"

Start A Boston College Masters in Social Work at WSC

Marilyn Carey
Staff Writer

Boston College Graduate School of Social Work offers 3-Year and 4-Year Masters in Social Work (MSW) degree programs for students needing to balance work and family responsibilities while pursuing their degree. Boston College offers MSW courses at three off-campus locations, including our own Worcester State College, where you may begin the 3-Year or 4-Year Program. MSW classes at Worcester State meet once a week on Tuesdays from 4:00 to 8:30 pm. Courses are taught by BC faculty and maintain the same high academic standards as classes at the Chestnut Hill campus. Field internships may also be completed in a geographic region convenient to one's home. Final year courses can be taken over one or two years and are offered at Chestnut Hill, where courses meet once a week.

Boston College Graduate School of Social Work has offered MSW courses in the Worcester area since 1984, and began at its current location at Worcester State College in 2004. The move was initially made possible with the support and hospitality of Dr. Maureen Power, Chair of the Intergenerational Studies Department, and the site continues to operate with the ongoing support of many Worcester State College staff. The program is currently located in the Urban Studies Department. "The Department of Urban Studies is proud to serve as the host department for Boston College's MSW program since it compliments our own undergraduate curriculum and graduate offerings in nonprofit management," said Dr. Steven Corey, Professor and Chair of Urban Studies. He added that, "We certainly hope to continue our partnership with Boston College well into the future."

Since the move to Worcester State College, many students have benefited from the convenient location and state-of-the-art electronic classrooms offered at Worcester State. Currently, there are twenty students enrolled in the program, including graduates of Worcester State College. Worcester resident Don Nicole, who graduated in 2007, is very positive about his experience at the Worcester State College site. "For me, the availability of the Central Mass site allowed me the convenience of pursuing my degree while still close to home and work. I liked the fact that the professors - and some of those whom I found to be my best professors overall - came out to the site, making for smaller classes in which everyone had the opportunity to participate and to receive individual feedback regularly. This helped to create a comfortable environment and a strong sense of support and collegiality among the students. One of the greatest strengths of the program here is the availability of a faculty advisor who guides each student personally through all facets of the program and who helps to ensure a successful transition to the Chestnut Hill site for the final year."

There will be two opportunities this semester to learn more about the BC program and its faculty. On January 29th from 5:00 to 7:30 pm there will be an informational session in the Foster Room located in the Student Center. On Wednesday evening March 26th Dr. Kathleen McInnis Dittrich, Chair of the BCGSSW Older Adults and Families Concentration, will speak at Worcester State College on Spirituality and Older Adults. All are welcome to attend these events. In addition, Marilyn Carey, LICSW, coordinator of the Worcester site is available in the Urban Studies office in room 129 of the Sullivan Academic Center from 3:00 to 6:30 pm on Tuesdays while classes are in session. Feel free to drop in or contact her at 413-586-7008 or marilyn.carey@bc.edu with any questions.

P.H.D. Problem

Chrissy kenney
Staff Writer

There seems to be some confusion regarding current professors obtaining and maintaining positions in the upcoming years of Worcester State College. The state was able to make the requirement that a tenure track hire is typically only made if the candidates have a P.h.D or are in the process of acquiring one. Unfortunately, this policy has affected current professors who do not have the proper educational degree. Certain professors are not able to return next year in their temporary full-time positions, but rather will be adjuncts to their departments. While this policy may be useful in narrowing the competition down to those who deserve positions, many students are very opinionated on the topic.

One senior, Craig Tiffany, feels as though whether or not a professor has a degree does not necessarily reflect on his or her teaching styles and effectiveness. He questions, "The professors that are here now know the system; why mess it up with a bunch of new people?" Professor Corey Dolgon clarifies that it is inaccurate to think that professors are losing their positions due to degree standing, but rather that the competition of those who do have P.h.D. has increased so greatly that it is unreasonable to leave things the way they are. But what about potential professors who are being considered for open positions? Senior Andrew Zubatkin feels that while a P.h.D. candidate should have a stronger edge against his competition, a professor should not be hired solely on his credentials. If a candidate seems as though he or she has an incredible teaching style and would be a great asset to a department, but they do not have a P.h.D, they should still be considered for a newly available opening. Dolgon states, "If there were no limitations on people being hired as full-time temps, the college could circumvent tenure and tenure track appointments by always hiring full-time temps." Clearly, the policy is in place to hire the most qualified professors possible, but some Worcester State students feel as though this policy could potentially limit and hinder our professor staff.

From Page One

Who, continued from front page

For someone exposed to the w harsh military atmosphere of Vietnam, Lindblom is remarkably soft-spoken and serene. Ann Holzgraf, a learning specialist who works alongside Lindblom offers nothing but praise for her colleague. "Dennis is a pillar of patience. He could have a million things to do, but the students are always his first priority."

At this, Lindblom modestly concedes, "I try to think of them like my children when they come into my office. It should be their home away from home."

Upon returning home, he enrolled in the University of Massachusetts Amherst, and began dating a Swedish girl. They became engaged by the time he received his B.A in psychology and Lindblom thought things were looking up; fate had dealt him a different hand.

He went to out to eat lunch where he came face to face with Genie, a waitress at the time. "She served my food, and I couldn't even swallow it. It was then I knew I was still in love with her."

Shortly after, he broke off his engagement, and married Genie, much to his father's chagrin. The rest is history. They have 3 children, as well as many grandchildren, whose pictures are stored in abundance in Lindblom's wallet.

In times of need, he always looked to his Baptist roots. Lindblom's father was a devout minister who often uprooted the family to preach at churches throughout the United States. He and his siblings lived a meager life and grew up with only the bare essentials. "Once we were getting used to one area, we would pack up and head to another. It was like starting over again, and again," said Lindblom.

On his breaks, he can be found at Worcester State College's basketball court shooting hoops, or on the tennis court. "I always try to keep active, but really I have loved sports since I was a child."

A few moments later, Lindblom is ready to go. "I promised I would take Genie out to eat, and already I am thirty minutes late. I guess I had better be getting home before she gets anymore upset." Lindblom rifles through the last of his papers and finally shuts down the screen of his computer. His office is open again tomorrow.

WAM Hosts Movie

Liz Malone
Contributor

Next fall you might see Worcester Art Museum's Education Director Honee Hess, or a sous-chef of the museum's café, Kathy Johnson, on the big screen. The two had cameos in the upcoming film, "The Lonely Maiden," due out in October of this year. These everyday people were astonished that they could partake in this exciting event. In between takes, Kathy Johnson proclaimed, "I never in a million years dreamed I'd ever be doing anything like this."

If you were around Worcester in the past month you might have spotted Christopher Walken, Morgan Freeman and William H. Macy walking on Lancaster Street or coming out of their dressing room trailers near the Trinity Lutheran Church. The Hollywood movie crews only visited for a one-day shoot at the Worcester Art Museum for the new movie, and excitement permeated throughout the entire place. Hollywood came to visit Worcester.

The movie's plot involves three veteran museum security guards who recently discover that their favorite and treasured pieces of art are being transferred to another museum. So, the three men plan a way to steal the artwork, so it does not leave their sight. Replicas of these pieces of work were filmed in rooms in the Worcester Art Museum. However, in the movie it will be known as Boston Art Museum. In a warehouse in Boston, the crew built similar rooms based on WAM, in order to perform their stunts without worrying about safety precautions. The Worcester Art Museum strictly enforced their rules; such has having no water bottles near the paintings or makeup during the shooting of the film. Some of the shots were taken in the Renaissance Court, which publically symbolizes WAM. The actors, such as Macy, admired the beauty of the museum and even remarked that he wanted a similar painting for himself.

Museum director, James Welu, who also plays a cameo in the film, is excited for the museum's recognition. All though the crew members pulled an all nighter, he said, "It's such a wonderful opportunity for the museum and we particularly love the theme of this film, which focuses on the guards and their love of the works of art."

Expect to see more movies filmed in Massachusetts. A new tax law was passed in order to promote shooting in Massachusetts. Fortunately Worcester got in on the action. The director of marketing and public relations, Alison Berkeley, first encountered visitors scouting out the museum. Soon, dozens of people were coming in to examine the lighting and sound situation. The investigating turned in to an important ordeal, and the Worcester Art museum was a part of it.

Congratulations to Melanie Wilcox, who won the Barbara Plion Poetry Contests after submitting her collection of poems, reproduced below.

"Human Experiment"

I stood (transfixed in thought) at the top of the driveway
With the curved handlebars of my neon purple bicycle
Clutched tightly in my 13-year-old hands.
Black pavement stretched out- an abyss-
Or a waiting racetrack taunting me.
Assuring myself I was ready
(tempting of merciless fate)
I kicked up the kickstand and took off-
Naturally light brown hair wisping across my cheeks,
Newly teenage legs peddling as fast as they could-
Up and down; up and down
Pushing my bicycle as far as it would go.
The street loomed up ahead, you know, the kind
Where frenzied drivers sped around
Not noticing young girls on bicycles.
(I knew I could cross)
I clenched my eyes shut for a second
Then opened them wide
And reeled my bicycle
Into the pricker bushes framing the end of the driveway
Falling head over heels, standing up
To find my young limbs scratched and bleeding,
Laughing quietly at something I couldn't yet define.

"Sense of Self"

His emotions change with the quickness of a summer lightning storm,
While I like to eat dirty turnips at night—
He sees himself as hopelessly inept,
While I hear he is smart
And can smell in the dark.
But the scent of ambrosia blinds us all.
I taste the fear on his tongue
And remember Jesse's bicycle shop on Brook St.—
But I don't think I've ever been there
Although there is a fantastic place nearby that serves great pancakes.
I think this is ludicrous—
I am always wanting to touch fluffy kittens
While he strives for something that doesn't exist.
"If it hadn't been for that horse,
I would have gone to college!"
The silly parrot of destiny
Is mute and can't flap its wings.
He will fly away on his Pegasus motorcycle
While Mouse watches helplessly.
Someday everything will fall into place
Though we wander through his rainstorm
In the dark, waiting for the lightning.

"Untitled"

I am merely
A collage
Bits of random genius
Wisdoms and anxieties
and poems
Random nonsense
That I am too lazy tired
drunk
To jot down
And so subconsciously
Absorb the words
thoughts
Like an expanding sponge
Adding further (junk)
To my scattered
Upside- downside
Self.

Student Athlete Profile: Lindsay Dellechiaie

Elizabeth Malone
Staff Writer

The Worcester State Lancer women's basketball team is lucky to have such an outstanding player and person on their team. Although there are many exceptional athletes on the team Lindsay Dellechiaie, a senior captain, shines brightly. Her basketball career has led her down a successful path that shaped her into the person she is today.

Raised in Leominster, Massachusetts, Lindsay grew up around basketball. At age 6, her father and uncle introduced her to that world and ever since, she's loved it. In the 5th grade she joined her first traveling team. Soon, high school came around the corner, where she started all four years, and scored over 1,000 points. She made history in her high school as being one out of three girls to do this. Her basketball experiences in her youth, led her to her present, where she also accomplished scoring 1,000 points once again.

Lindsay's highly competitive character, along with her passion for the sport, all led her to have great moments in her career. She seemed as if she had many to choose from, from the many games played at Woo State. What stood out prominently for her was the winning three pointer she scored against Eastern Connecticut, as well as when the team beat Salem State for the league title – one reason because she scored 32 points in that single game.

Although it is her senior year and parting with team, who have become her close friends, will be hard, she will still carry her love of the sport. As a communications major, she plans on getting a good job, but will try and coach basketball or something related.

Throughout her life, Lindsay's family played an active role in her career. She said, "My parents, brother and sister have been my biggest fans and I without a doubt couldn't have done it without them. I'm very lucky to have them and I hope I've made them proud." Best of luck from WSC – we think she did a good job too.

Falcons Soar Over Lancers

Patrick K. Sargent
Sports Writer

The Falcons are keeping the streak alive. The Fitchburg State men's basketball team was able to hold off a second half rally by Worcester State on Tuesday night to pull off their sixth straight win on Tuesday night with a 78-73 victory. The Falcons improved their record to 14-4 overall and 6-1 in the MASCAC conference. Worcester State drops to 9-11.

Worcester State Senior guard Ryan Frassica led all scorers with 22 points followed by Senior guard Will Spont with 16.

Jeff Kozik and Tim Graham paced the Falcons' offense with 14 points each. Brian Torres added 13 points.

Earlier this season, Fitchburg squeaked out a 56-51 win over the Lancers. It didnt seem as if the final score would be that close this time around as the Falcons held a 15 point lead at the end of the first half. Fitchburg mounted that lead by shooting 60% from the field and 50% from behind the 3-point arc.

The second half was an entirely different ballgame. Worcester State opened the half with an 18-6 run to get within 3 of the Falcons. . Sophomore Brandon Fortes pumped in 13 points in the second half to lead the Lancer rally. Sophomore forward Patrick Hamilton went 5 for 6 from the foul line in the second half to inch the Lancers within one of Fitchburg with just under three minutes remaining. Worcester State crushed Fitchburg on the boards, grabbing 17 offensive rebounds to the Falcons' seven.

Worcester State seemed pumped up by their small but very loud fanbase, but they unraveled when Senior forward Josh Barry was called for a technical foul for stepping on Kozik after Barry had fouled him while shooting. Fitchburg Senior Matt Collins went 1 for 2 for the technical foul shots, while Kozik dropped both of his in. A open court lay-up by Graham with just over a minute to go sealed the game for the Falcons.

The Falcons have two straight home games coming up with Newbury on Thursday and Salem State on Saturday. With six games left before the MASCAC tournament, Fitchburg head coach Derek Shell hopes to win out for the rest of the season and build upon the team's great play."We're playing really well right now," Shell said. "The guys are ready to play games and so am I."

With five regular season games remaining, Worcester State will attempt to get back on track one game at a time beginning with Westfield State at Westfield on Saturday Febuary 9th at 3pm.

Sargent Promoted to Sports Writer

Chrissy Kenney
Staff Writer

Former staff writer Patrick Sargent has been promoted to Sports Editor on The Student Voice staff. He joined the Voice in September of 2007 in hopes of building his journalism portfolio. Sargent originally directed his attention towards sports because he felt it was something he could "jump right into," and he reads as many sports articles as he can in order to help with his writing style and clarity. With his well-versed knowledge and interest in sports, there's certainly no one better to take on the task.

Sargent grew up in the Grafton Hill area, but currently resides in Worcester. His father was a high school basketball and baseball coach, and Sargent says that playing these sports when he was growing up created a good background to have when covering the games. While he jokes about his mediocre golfing skills, he is confident that his experience with it has helped him write about the sport. When covering sports he is unfamiliar with, such as hockey and soccer, he studies the appropriate amount of research prior to the game in order to write a clear story.

Along with writing for the Voice, Patrick is also a sports correspondent for the Fitchburg Pride and the Leominster Champion; he has just recently begun submitting work to Worcester Magazine. Patrick states, "I've watched how other writers from daily papers go about covering a story. I try to emulate what they do during a game or when interviewing someone, but I try and keep my writing my own." Although he feels as though he has been "going to school for what seems like forever," upon graduating in May he hopes to eventually attend graduate school. Sargent follows the Red Sox, Celtics, and Patriots consistently. Many of his favorite authors began as journalists, such as John Steinbeck, Ernest Hemmingway, and Dave Eggers. As far as WSC influences, Sargent discusses the late professor Robert Walker's impression on his journalism techniques fondly. As the only journalism class Patrick took at Worcester State, he declares, "I took that class three years ago and much of what he taught me, if not all, has stayed with me since then." Sargent has certainly impressed our staff with his dedication and timely manner consistently shown in his submitted work, and we are proud to have him take on the role of Sport's Editor of The Student Voice.

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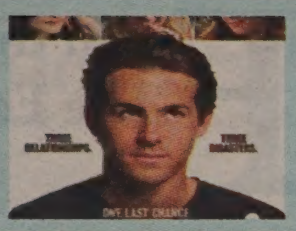

Review of the movie "Definitely, Maybe"

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Frank Santos Hypnotizes Worcester State

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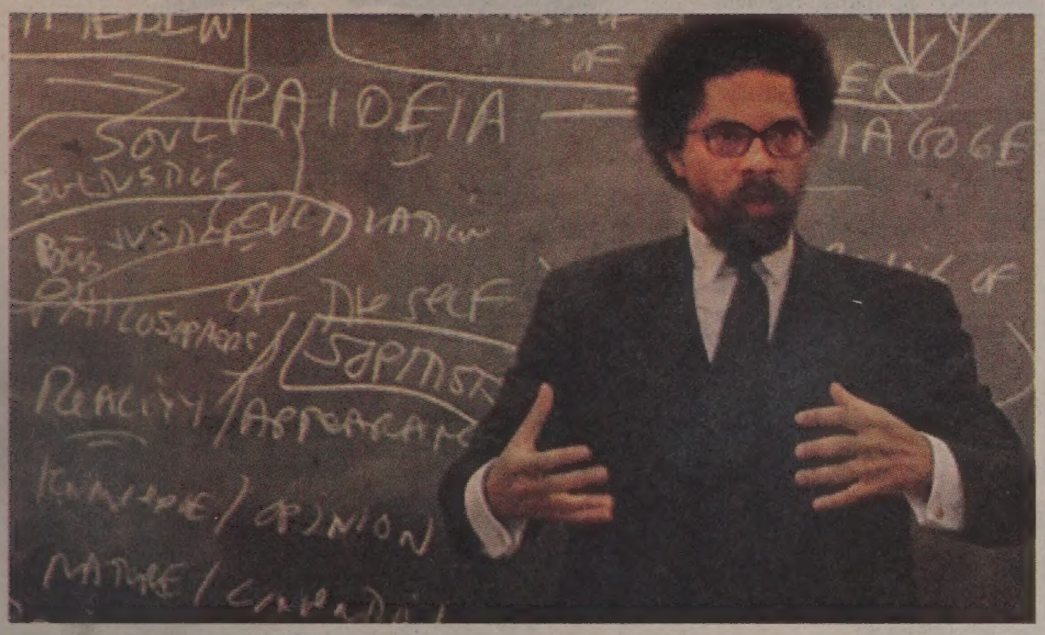

Dr. Cornell West Rescheduled to March 3

Thomas W. Marino III
Editor in Chief

Author, philosopher and professor Dr. Cornell West will speak in the Worcester State College Sullivan Auditorium on March 3 at 7 p.m. The event is sponsored by many WSC organizations, including Third World Alliance, the Center for Human Rights, the Center for Learning and Civic Engagement and the Faith Zeady Foundation. West was originally scheduled to appear on February 13, but the event was cancelled due to weather.

West is the author of 17 books, including his well known 1993 work "Race Matters." Publishers Weekly called this book a collection of "profoundly moral essays on American race relations."

West's newest publication, "Democracy Matters: Winning the Fight Against Imperialism" claims that "we live at a moment in which it has become fashionable to celebrate the benefits of imperial rule and to accentuate the deficiencies of democratic governance."

West is currently a University Professor of Religion in the Center for African American Studies at Princeton University. He was director of the center from 1988 to 1994.

West earned his Ph.D. in 1980 from Princeton and has taught at Union Theological Seminary, Yale, Harvard, and the University of Paris. He also played a role in the development of the story line for the *Matrix* movie trilogy, appearing in its final two installments. According to the Princeton website, West has recently taught The Religious Dimensions of Du Bois, Baldwin and Morrison as well as Studies in Religion and Philosophy: Hegel and His Influence.

"Democracy Matters" is available from Penguin Press while "Race Matters" is available from Beacon Books. Both are currently available in the campus bookstore.

West's other books are available from a variety of publishers. They include *The African-American Century: How Black Americans Have Shaped Our Century*, with Henry Louis Gates, Jr.; and *The Cornel West Reader*.;

Intern Hell: Day One

Jacqueline Morrill
Staff Writer

(continuation from last issue)

My first official day at "Intern Hell" had arrived, and upon entering the office, I was quickly shown to my cubicle. The Windows 98 modem was to be my only friend while I was fenced into this tiny space like a strange species of bird at the zoo, while the rest of the staff gawked and whispered. Caroline hovered above me, "So, I just want you to look for some ideas. Anything. Let me know what you find and then we'll see if you can write." *If* I can write? The implication that my writing might not be as good as I had originally thought stung my twenty year old English major ego, but it was this minor insult that somehow pushed me to sit at the computer for four hours and search the web for as many ideas as possible. I wanted to please. I wanted to be accepted. I wanted to be a part of the "cool kids" at my internship.

Hour one was bad. From ten thirty to eleven forty-five I sat in the same position, staring at the computer. I was hopeless, and had no clue as to where I should be looking for entertainment news in Worcester. Is there a special site dedicated to the music, art, and movie scene of this grubby city? Hour two was even worse. The guy sitting across from my cubicle, (whom in the future I refer to as "boy with holes in his ears") began to sing along to his iPod. Woo Tang Clan was his music of choice. Enough said. His voice made me giggle, but after about three minutes, the room was quiet again and the boredom set in even heavier. Hour three set off some sort of innate alarm in the brains of each staff member. Without prior discussion to the matter, take-out menus were whipped out of drawers and one by one they crowded around the center layout table in order to discuss the important location of today's lunch. They went with Wings. The second half of the third hour I was alone. The smell of honey mustard and barbeque wafted through the air, a nice change to the usual Lean Cuisine stench, but unfortunately for me, I wasn't invited to sit at their table in the corner office. During hour three, I was the designated nerd eating my turkey, cheese, and pickle sandwich out of a brown paper bag.

The last hour of day one, hour four, was the worst. A veil of decorative sticky notes covered the computer. The beginnings of paper cranes were crumpled on the floor. I had revised the phonebook in my cell phone at least fifteen times, and researched seven graduate schools in depth, including admissions, athletics and academic affairs for each. I hadn't however, been able to find one usable idea. After searching on Google, Yahoo! and MSN with zero results, I sucked up my pride and decided to make my way over to Caroline's cubicle and do the unthinkable. I would ask for help. Suddenly, I felt like a wild animal again; this time, a small African rodent. I was a rat, creeping along the walls of the office in search of food. As I stood up and took my first step outside my square foot of office space, the rest of the staff, (about fifteen people) stopped what they were doing and stuck their heads in the air, like Meer Kats with twitching heads and eyes darting from me to Caroline. They watched my every move. I was slightly uncomfortable.

"Um, ah, Caroline?" She didn't hear me. The headphones covering her ears were more like ear-muffs,and in an attempt to not look too desperate, I spoke up again, "Caroline?" Her eyes were glued to her computer screen. I didn't want to poke her. I don't think anyone wants to be poked, especially while in a world of your own when you are completely unaware of the fact that someone is going to potentially scare the crap out of you with a gentle tap on the shoulder. Who knows, the poker could be a serial killer, a maniac with a knife just ready to stab you in the throat just as you turn to say "hello." Poking just isn't a good idea. But I did it anyway, and just as I had anticipated, Caroline practically fell out of her seat. Her earphones drooped to one side of her head and her hair was frazzled. She put her hand over her heart and said in that low, nasal, phlegmatic tone of voice, "Holy S---! Oh God... what do you want?" I smiled half-heartedly and replied, "Um, I don't really know where to look for, um, ideas, so, do

Intern, continued of page 7

Bush Gives WSC a Break!

Patrick Sargent
Staff Writer

In case you're a bit puzzled over President Bush's tax rebate proposal and your future rebate, we here at the Student Voice would like to provide you with some much needed clarification. First, consider the rebate as a light at the end of a tunnel. It's simple: at some point between the end of the semester and the end of the summer, you will receive a rebate check. In this way, you can either spend it on vacation, or save it for next year's tuition bill

Next, Bush's rebate is specifically developed in an attempt to spur the economy by the means of encouraging spending among Americans. This isn't free money from the government, or just an extra lump sum of money as a 2007 tax refund increase. In a practical sense, the rebate is an early tax cut for 2008. In other words, you're getting money now that the government anticipates you getting for your 2008 tax refund. However, the refund won't be taxable nor will it decrease your return next year.

For college students, you're pretty much guaranteed a refund of up to $600 so long as you are employed and you file your 2007 federal tax return. The rules are as follows:

- You have to file your 2007 federal tax return by April 15th
- You need a valid Social Security number
- You would have had to make at least $3,000 of taxable income in 2007
- Rebates of $600 will be given to individuals with a yearly earnings of up to $75,000 (Partial rebates to those earning between $75,000 and $87,000)
- Couples with a combined income of up to $150,000 will earn $1200
- An additional $300 per child under 17 years of age for families (Families will not be able to receive a refund for anyone over 17)
- $300 rebates will be rewarded to low income individuals (senior citizens, disabled veterans, and veterans' widows)
- Individuals that make more than $87,000 will not receive a refund

If you're still confused, please just take this advice: File your federal tax return by April 15th and you will get money from the government by the end of the summer. There is free tax filing services offered on campus and throughout the city of Worcester. For more information, please visit the Tax Office in the Sullivan Academic Center, room 220.

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THE VOICE

Worcester State College's Student Newspaper

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From the Desk of: The Editor in Chief

This edition of the Student Voice is dedicated to the memory of Gayle Bubowski, Juliana Gehant, Catalina Garcia, Ryanne Mace and Daniel Parmenter who all lost their lives at Northern Illinois University on February 14.

For full coverage from the NIU campus, please visit the student newspaper at NIU, Northern Star, at www.star.niu.edu.

"A single act of violence does not define us and will not keep us from being the individuals or the university community that I know we can be." – NIU President John G. Peters

Thomas W. Marino III
Editor in Chief

Letter to the Editor

Resident Assistance are on the Warpath

Andrew Pioli
Resident Student

As long as the idea of college has been around, partying has not been far away from thought. As we grow, both physically and mentally, our social capacities grow as well. This has always been mutually accepted here at Worcester State College to a safe and respectable degree. If a situation seemed to be getting out of control or becoming unsafe due to rowdiness or over drunkenness, it is the duty of the Resident Advisors to step in and handle the situation. However, there is a line that needs to be crossed in order for the RA's to get involved, and that is where my concern lies. The line of simple student fun and a dangerous situation has diminished further and further in the eyes of our Resident Advisors, especially in the fall semester of 2007 and this spring semester of 2008. One has to ask the question, have our resident faculty, who we pay for with our money, begun to abuse their position in an attempt to satisfy some personal void?

In order to answer such a question, one must know the details of being a Resident Advisor here at Worcester State. One must protect the well-being of the residents and ensure happiness and safety. By this definition, it seems that the RA position would be one of an appreciated role here on campus. Yet, week after week, stories of RA's breaking procedure and handing out unnecessary write-ups flow from the resident-student body. It seems that personal fulfillment is clouding our RA's judgment. Where did it all go wrong?

Being a resident student here at Worcester State for two years now, I can say that I myself have witnessed this dark change in our Resident Advisors. My RA my freshman year was best friends with not only myself, but everyone in my building, and I can say he was considered a great RA, even to this day. During his service, he would see our behavior, which may not have been according to policy, but in good fun, and he would tell us to stop or quiet down; he didn't immediately resort to storming in to all the rooms writing up everyone in site and confiscating anything that could be considered worthy of drinking activities, as we've all witnessed or heard about. Apparently something has changed; either the idea of fun has changed, or our Resident Advisors apparently cannot recognize it. If this is true, then I feel nothing but sorry for them, but more realistically, the answer is clear; the RA's enjoy their position and gain sheer pleasure from breaking up your gatherings and writing you up so that further punishment can be inflicted upon you (even if you, yourself is not guilty of anything but physically being there). It's "no excuses, no exceptions, if you're there, you're guilty."

So, are all RA's sadists just out to get you? Absolutely not, I myself am a personal friend of a few, which is where I have all this knowledge from. Some RA's are just students trying to do their job. It is them I applaud, for their position of power has not corrupted them. However, do not confuse them for the RA's just looking for their next power trip. In point, when asked to open your refrigerator, it is your right as a student to say no and receive no coercion. However, if you respond "no," and receive harassment from the RA's and campus police, know that it is such harassment that is against the student handbook under their non-discriminatory policy. Still, this rule it is repeatedly broken without remorse by the RA's. It disgusts me to see such blatant disrespect and disregard towards our rights.

So, they're a tight-knit faction out to get us kicked off campus and steal our booze? Not quite. It seems that the RA's are as fickle in their friendships with one another as they are with their intentions for the residents. Just recently, a highly looked upon RA was kicked out of their position for being in a room that was acting noisy and had long-time empty beer bottles around. The RA was written up by an infamous RA, [name redacted]. I can't even begin to list all the acts of atrocity and corruption that I've been told of by numerous sources on numerous accounts (anything from her ousting other RA's that this [name] has a grudge against, to handing out shots of alcohol to her own residents several times). Which brings up my final question, with all of these things known to us, the student-residents, why are these people allowed any authority over the rest of us when clearly they are not fit to be carrying on with their duties on this campus?

In conclusion, I myself am just a voice. I am a student-resident who, like many of you, has been wronged. Wronged by a fickle authority that has lost vision of its true intent, to better the student-residents and help this campus. How can those in charge of making sure that our rights are upheld show such disrespect for them? Do we not pay for our rights? Furthermore, do we not pay their salary? I think there needs be a serious check in place, one to remind the RA's that it is not us that need them, but it is they who need us.

Question: Guns or Blowers?

Melanie Wilcox
Op-Ed

As I was sitting in my Spanish class, struggling to hear my professor and my classmates speak over the air blowing from the radiator in the corner, I began to get really frustrated. I wondered how an institution of higher learning such as Worcester State College would install blowers that would make it impossible to hear half of what was said in the classrooms.

Then, I began to get cold. It was January, the start of the spring semester, and I was soon sitting there, not being able to hear, and now freezing as well. It was so cold that I wished I had my scarf and hat with me. I had to tough it out, however, and I sat there, shivering with cold.

Later, I felt better when I learned that I was not alone. I've had many conversations with other students who felt the same way about the heating and cooling systems in the buildings at Worcester State. Many students have told me about how they have sat through classes that were either boiling hot, ice cold, or hard to hear in. Is this conducive to good learning?

Also, as I understand it, the heaters and blower units are locked and it is impossible to adjust them, no matter how poorly they work or how they negatively affect the classroom. I even heard that at one point a professor got so frustrated that he somehow dismantled one unit in order to adjust it. These may all be exaggerated stories, I'm not sure, but I know that I have gotten numb from cold in the winter while sitting in a class and I have felt stifled by heat there in the summer. Therefore, I'm sure others have felt the same.

On some level I understand also the reasoning behind having these units locked and controlled from a central location, but there must be a better way of monitoring how they work so that the students—and professors—don't suffer. I was told once that the reason that the college opted for these units was due to economics. When thinking about that, I feel that every member of the Worcester State community should ask this question: how can the college not afford to purchase proper heating and cooling units for the classrooms but can afford to train and arm its campus police officers?

Dear Worcester State, You're on Your Own

Felicia Misale & Thomas W. Marino III
Op-Ed

Many of us again felt a sense of fear and concern for our own safety after hearing of the events that occurred on the campus of Northern Illinois University, a feeling very much akin to those we felt after Virginia Tech. After last year's heinous act, our fears subsided the day after the tragedy when a lengthy statement was issued from the office of the president of Worcester State to the email box of all WSC students assuring us that, in summation, we would be safe. The reassurance that the leaders of the campus were watching out for those of us who make their way to the school's buildings every day, even if in the form of a forwarded email, helped ease the serious shock and panic of a tragic event.

Unfortunately, this was not the case after the events of the Northern Illinois University shooting. Hours of refreshing our WSC inbox and checking the text alerts for an announcement from the new emergency notification system amounted to nothing (we later learned the emergency system is still in its testing phase). No official mention of the NIU tragedy was sent for days. Soon, our grief for the students at NIU and fear for our own safety turned to anger. All that was expected was a simple email to acknowledge the misfortune of what happened elsewhere and the encouragement that it would not happen here.

Five days after the events at NIU, on February 19, a statement was released from the president's office. The words "Northern Illinois University" appeared in a different font than the rest of the message, as if they had been plugged into to a form letter about campus shootings. Instead of acknowledging that it was the Tuesday after the Thursday shootings, the message began by incorrectly referring to the shootings as happening "yesterday."

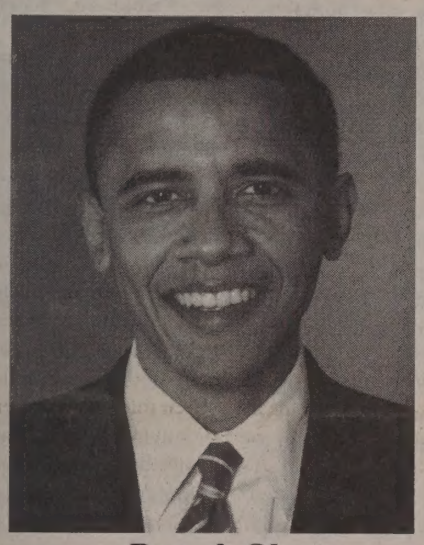
To be fair, we must consider that this newest tragedy happened on a Thursday before a long weekend, which certainly has something to do with the number of days in between the event and the response on this campus. The tragedy at Virginia Tech took place on a Monday, and the response here at WSC came the following day. Still, the tragedy at NIU came on a Thursday, and classes were in session on Friday February 15.

There are hidden issues that the students and faculty cannot ignore. No security policy changes that WSC could make would help to prevent this type of atrocity from happening here. The police officers at Virginia Tech and NIU were both armed, and from all accounts, trained adequately. There was not another crime being investigated at the time the NIU shooter opened fire at that institution, like at Virginia Tech. These crimes are preventable by intervention before the fact, not during, and certainly not after. Armed officers are never at the shooting site when an event of this type begins to take place. An armed officer can prevent more dead and wounded once arriving on the scene, but cannot help the already murdered and wounded. Judging by the tardiness and lack of care with which our authority figures handled this recent shooting, it seems as if the school is dependent on the notion that because our campus police are now armed, the students and faculty are now worry-free. Not only is this assumption incorrect, but in many situations, it further deepens any pre-existing fears.

There is one lesson to learn from all these tragedies: no one can help you here at this campus. You are on your own.

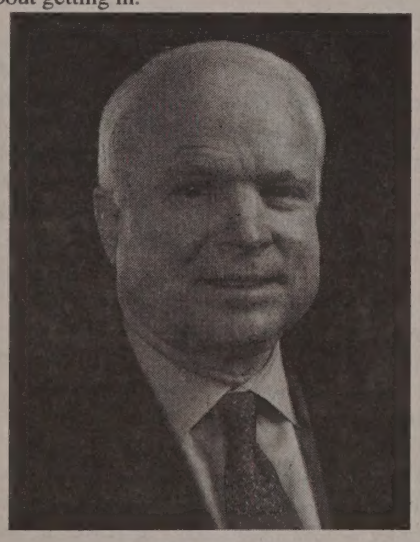
Who Should Worcester State Vote For?

The Presidential candidates have many varying opinions on education, marriage, and War in Iraq. What you need to know before you make your vote. by: Joanna Good



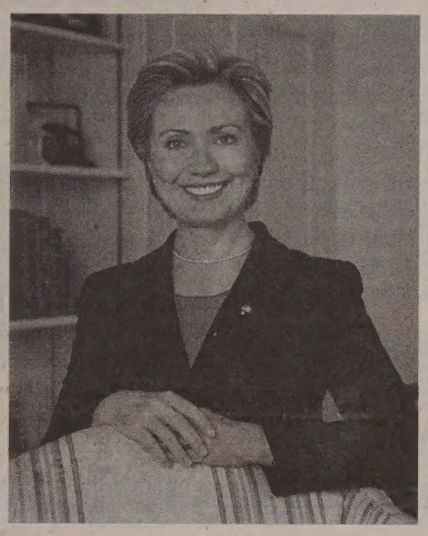
Barack Obama
(Democrat: Senator, Illinois)

- Education: "We need a sense of urgency about improving education system."
- Marriage: "Decision about marriage should be left to the states."
- War in Iraq: "Be as careful getting out as we were careless about getting in."



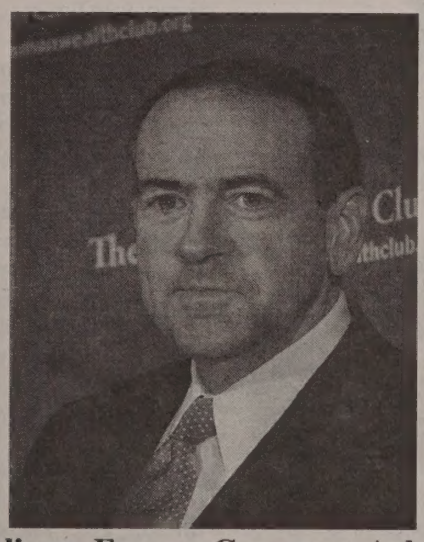
John McCain
(Republican: Senator, Arizona)

- Education: "American education must be worthy of the promise we make to our children and to ourselves-the freedom and opportunity to chase our dreams."
- Marriage: "Leave gay marriage to the states."
- War in Iraq: "It is now our turn to demonstrate that our power, enabled by our principles, is the greatest force for good on earth today. Iraq's transformation into a secure democracy and a force for freedom in the greater Middle East is the calling of our age. We can succeed."



Hilary Clinton
(Democrat: Senator, New York)

- Education: "Testing on only new teachers respects professionalism."
- Marriage: "Let states decide gay marriage."
- War in Iraq: "If Bush doesn't end Iraq war, when I'm president, I will."



(Republican: Former Governor, Arkansas)

- Education: "I believe that every child should have the opportunity for a quality education that teaches the fundamental skills needed to compete in a global economy."
- Marriage: "I support and have always supported passage of a federal constitutional amendment that defines marriage as a union between one man and one woman."
- War in Iraq: "General Petraeus and our troops are giving their all to provide a window of opportunity for the Iraq government to succeed, while the Democrats are running for the exit doors."

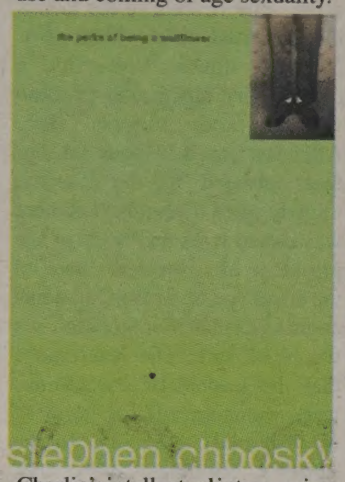
Read All About it: WSC Book Club

Jacqueline Morrill
Staff Writer

Reading. The very word, (not to mention the act of reading) has become, to many college students, the foreshadowing of a torturously long night of ennui. Whether professors are assigning a Dickens novel, biology labs, cultural essays in a foreign language, or even pages upon pages of mathematical equations, reading for any class has become more like a chore than intellectual development. Despite the negative connation with reading, the WSC Book Club has made it a bit easier for students to read for pleasure and not in pain. "It's just a place where people can come together and read something other than textbooks for classes," states the club president, Hayley Stefan. As the first club president of the Book Club, Stefan admits, it hasn't grown an immense fan base yet, "Right now it's just about eight or nine of us. Very intimate, but we welcome all new members."

The Book Club began with its first official meeting in the winter of 2006, under the lead of faculty advisor Melissa Moore, and has in the past read the likes of Audrey Niffenegger's The Time Traveler's Wife, Janet Fitch's White Oleander, and Gregory Maguire's Wicked. The 2007 club members embarked on a new journey into the world of literature this Fall Semester by choosing two more novels.

Stephen Chbosky's The Perks of Being a Wallflower, is written in the form of anonymous letters by the shy and pubescent teen, Charlie. His letters to the readers are compelling and filled with awkward times of adolescence, (that anyone can relate to), the "unthinkable acts" of youth drug use and coming of age sexuality.



Charlie's intellectual introversion makes him an intriguing narrator and his painful bashfulness around any social network brings about lost emotions of shame, self-doubt and even fear that most of us forget after the age of eighteen. Not only does Chbosky's novel unearth these supposed lost feelings, but he also references literature, movies and music that as teens, created the soundtracks and alter-egos of our seemingly uneventful lives. In the end, Charlie is just a character and his experiences are simply fiction, but in the end, we too might be inspired to lean *our* heads out the window of the car and scream into the wind, "I feel infinite!"

The second book, Kim Edwards' The Memory Keeper's Daughter begins in the winter of 1964 when Dr. David Henry delivers a set of twins to his wife. One is a perfectly healthy baby boy and the other, a tiny girl of whom he immediately recognizes to have Down Syndrome. For motives he tells himself are justifiable, and for the love of his family, the doctor rashly begs the nurse to take the infant girl away to an institution. Instead, the sympathetic nurse decides to raise the baby herself in a far away city, away from the father who never wanted her and the family who may not even know that she exists. This compulsively readable novel parallels the lives of two families and the dark secrets that connect them to each other.

For more information about these books or if you'd like to join in on the fun, drop by the Seven Hills Lounge in Wasylean Hall on Wednesday, March 5th for the next meeting. Discussion about the novels and voting for the next literature duo will begin at 7 p.m.

Hypnotized and Mesmorized

Jacqueline Morrill
Staff Writer

The Comedy Connection at Fanuel Hall, Boston, is notorious for its comedic guests such as Jeff Dunham and Aries Spears, but on Thursday, February 7th, R-Rated Hypnotist Frank Santos made his way onto the stage, playfully insulting anyone and everyone in his path. Upon entering the Comedy Connection with its intimate seating and small inviting stage, I had low expectations for the show. Hypnotist? What is he going to do, wave a pendulum in front of the audience's faces and help them quit smoking? Needless to say I was skeptical as to the true workings of the infamous Mr. Santos.

Had there been a better audience with members who were willing to truly participate, the acts would have benefitted. Among the more hilarious tricks was a twenty-something red head who was convinced that there were aliens outside the Comedy Connection. After waking from a deep sleep she immediately felt like she couldn't breathe and needed some air. However, once she opened the doors leading to the upper level of Fanuel Hall, she was met with hundreds of horny aliens. She ran back into the room and hysterically began to shout, "There's aliens out there, and they're all procreating!" This same participant was also convinced that she was Kelly Clarkson, a member of a traveling strip-tease act, and also had the unusual talent of hearing another participant's "member" talking dirty to her.

The talking genitalia belonged to another believable audience member, a middle aged man who upon waking from hypnosis, transformed into a James Brown impersonator. He *was* the incarnation of the soul singing dance master. Another unfortunate stint took place after the man made a quick trip to the bathroom and realized that a very important part of his body was missing. After this shocking realization, the stunned man jumped to the conclusion that another man in the audience had cut it off and proceeded to interrogate the audience member about his motivations for stealing his "pride."

Though there were many participants that weren't "usable" to Santos, the comedic relief he provided for skeptical audience members was money well spent. His snide remarks targeted the likes of a bald man in the front row, a woman whose revealing low-cut top caught the eye of the hypnotized middle aged man, and a table of five young women out for a 22nd birthday celebration. These women were then dubbed the "table of hoochies" and congratulated by Mr. Santos on the achievement of being able to close their legs. There were of course many other comments bursting with sexual innuendo, however, due to their over-the top perverse nature, I'll leave those to your imaginations.

Definitely, Maybe a Movie Review

Matt Brown
Staff Writer

"Definitely, Maybe" is not a particularly special movie, but without much competition from any worthwhile films in theatres, "Definitely, Maybe" shines as an enjoyable and engaging romantic comedy that even men would like.

Ryan Reynolds, an actor that has the uncanny ability to always come across as the boy next door through his perfectly timed delivery of lines and his knack for getting that little extra laugh into every joke, draws in his audience with trademark charm. The beautiful Isla Fischer leaves the audience with smiles on their faces and thoughts of, "Why does this girl not have her own movie yet?"

Writer/director Adam Brooks spins the story of soon-to-be divorced Will Hayes (Reynolds) who is questioned by his adorable and witty beyond her years daughter, (Abigail Breslin, "Little Miss Sunshine") about how he met her mother.

Hayes leaves suburbia and his girlfriend Emily (*Scrubs*' Elizabeth Banks) behind to work on the 1992 Clinton presidential campaign in New York City.

Delivering a secret diary package that Emily has sent to her old friend, Hayes meets the strong and brilliant minded character of Summer (Rachel Weisz), who Hayes finds out has had a sexual history with Emily.

He runs into the quirky copy girl for the campaign, April (Fischer), who crowds will immediately fall for with her banter of love, music and Jane Eyre.

With these three women in his life introduced to the viewers, Hayes leaves the answer up to his daughter and the audience; to which of the characters is the mother? The plot twists could have you guessing to the end, but it is not too hard to choose correctly.

The film opens with a strong comedic charge lead by Reynolds, Breslin and Fischer. Slowly, though, the movie moves more to the romance and drama spectrum and seems to never fully recapture the laughs the film opened with.

Released on Valentine's Day, "Definitely, Maybe" is not shy to express its target audience of teenage and adult couples looking for that enticing mix of a romantic comedy. And if it were my final word, "Definitely, Maybe" accomplishes this simple goal of entertainment, nothing more and nothing less.

Water for Elephants

Patrick K Sargent
Staff Writer

Aside from an overwhelming bout of creativity, the most important element of Sara Gruen's *Water for Elephants* is Gruen's ability to capture a genuine male voice. Jacob Jankowski, the novel's protagonist, is a 93-year-old man caged up in an assisted-living home, forgotten by his family and understandably short-tempered with the nurses and residents of the retirement community.

The story itself revolves around Jankowski reminiscing about his experience as an uncertified veterinarian on the Benzini Brother's Greatest Show on Earth circus, and his current life in the retirement home. Gruen beautifully intertwines both aspects of Jankowski's life and fills the pages of the novel with a believable tale of innocence of a young man, a history of circus life in America, unlikely love stories, and the difficulties of growing up and growing old.

The story is surprising, uplifting, engaging, and highly depictive all at the same time. The cast of characters that Gruen weaves in and out are all seemingly real, especially Uncle Al, the Ringmaster of the circus, Marlena, Jankowski's love, and Rosie, the circus elephant. Above all, Gruen's depiction of Jankowski as an everyman, a lover and a fighter, an intelligent independent, and as an individual with dreams for a better life even in old age, makes this story worthy of its bestseller status.

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HOMETOWN THROW UP ROCKS BOSTON

Matt Brown
Staff Writer

There are some concerts that will forever remain in your memory and only later crystallize into something that was far greater than what actually happened. It is those memories that take you back and for a moment, there is nothing else you will want to think of. The night of February 23, 2008 will forever be that memory to many.

Boston street-rock band Darkbuster, along with friends Band of Felons, The Allstonians, and Hub City Stompers, played the seventh show in their 3rd annual Hometown Throw Up concert series, a set of eight concerts in eight days at Harper's Ferry in Boston. It was created in response to the Mighty Mighty Bosstones' Hometown Throw Down, just after the band went on hiatus four years ago. The Bosstones are finally back, but Darkbuster is not about to let their fans down, and thus have decided to keep their new tradition alive.

Darkbuster, comprised of Lenny Lashley (lead guitar, vocals), Mike Gurley (bass guitar, backup vocals) Danny O'Halloran (drums) and Amy Griffin (rhythm guitar), took the stage to the passionate chants from the sold out crowd. There was a growing sense of unity among band and audience, where the voice of one was only as strong as the voice of the other.

The concert series is being filmed in the hopes of a DVD or bonus disc for the new record the band is currently in the process of recording. "We're seven songs in", says Griffin, "and we're hoping it comes into fruition soon."

The horns section of The Allstonians joins on-stage for ska departures, including "Rudy" and "Motown," as well as for the Clash-inspired "DJ".

The show concludes with "Cheap Wine and Cigarettes," but to the dismay of the masses, the song is cut short as fans charged the stage and cables were pulled from their amps. The sound drowned to a mutter as fans were thrown off-stage by overly anxious house security. Griffin explains that, "It's always a bad thing when it ends like that. I knew the kid and I ended up grabbing him and yelling 'What are you doing?'"

The band graciously took their leave off-stage and made their way onto the floor for photo ops, which few bands today take the time to do. Genuinely connecting to each and every fan is vital, and as Lashley points out, "We try to win them over one fan at a time. Whatever it takes." A man of few words but exuberant enthusiasm, Lashley patted fans at the bar on the back and was always there to thank each and every person for coming out to the show.

Regarded by many as, "the future of the Boston punk rock scene," Darkbuster remains grounded in their ambitions and stay true to their beliefs. Backstage, Lashley, who was celebrating his 43rd birthday, offered insight into topics of the misrepresentation of the stigmatic label "sell-out" by confessing, "If you stay true to your roots, and you are making money doing it, how is that selling-out? You can't listen to what some 16-year-old kid says because it seems that their view of what a sell-out is has become blurred these days. Be who you are, stay true to yourself and you will never be a sell-out."

The city skyline called for a swift exit, leaving behind what is a now only faint recollection of a night where band and audience were one, and where that troubled kid could find his only escape.

After an hour of excessive amounts of beer being thrown – so much so t hat it blotted out the stage lights -- the crowds dispersed and the bar stereo played Judge Dread. If you did not leave the show able to ring your clothes out into your favorite pint and fill it full of beer, than you were not really there.

WSC Profile: Desiree Nelson

Dana Lyford
Student Activites Intern

Here in the Student Center/Student Activities office we appreciate the involvement of all of our student leaders. In order to shed some light on the student leaders and all that they do, we bring to you the Student Leader Spotlight. This week's spotlight will be on one of the up and coming student leaders here at WSC: Desiree Nelson. Desiree is the secretary of the Student Senate, a member of the Student Events Committee and an Orientation Leader.

Dana: What urged you to get involved on campus?

Desiree: In high school I was always really involved. I worked a lot last year so I couldn't be very involved. It's always been something I have liked to do, when I was in high school I lived in a bad neighborhood so I kept myself involved to stay out of trouble. I find it really self rewarding, I like to help out others as much as I can. I love this school, so I would do anything for it.

What have you gotten out of your experiences being involved?

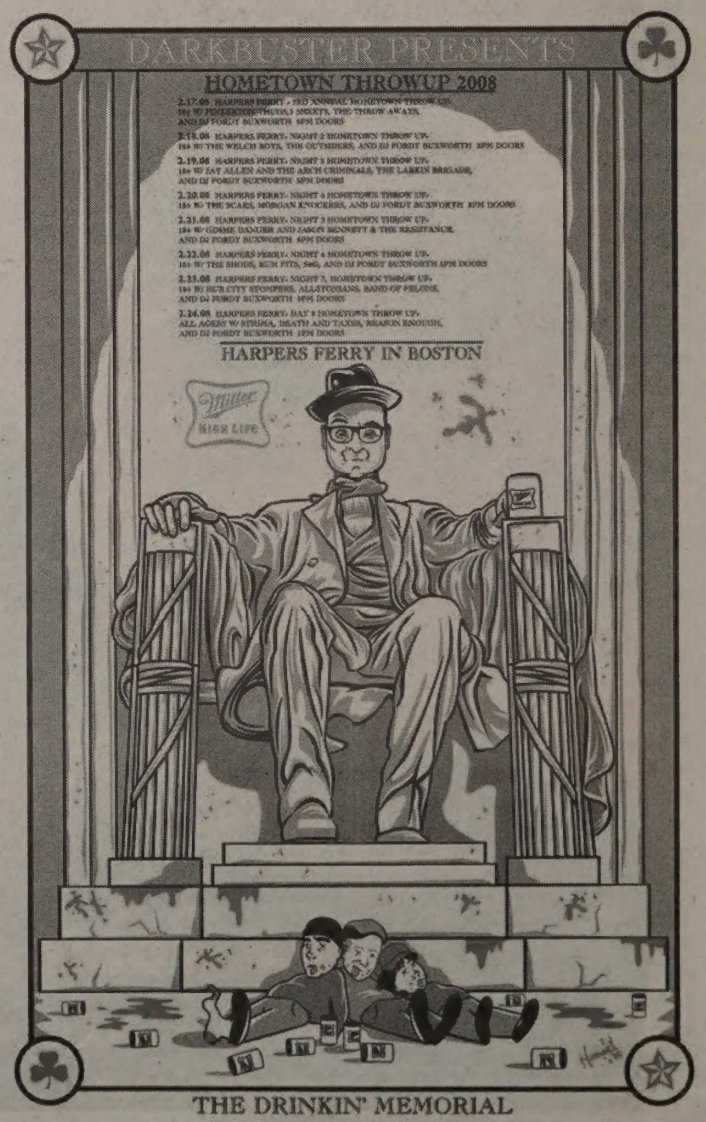
In orientation, I learned a lot about teambuilding. Putting team builders to use helped me to realize how important they are. Being an orientation leader taught me a lot of communication skills. My position as a Senator has taught me a lot about politics, good and bad. Being a Senator, I learn a lot about the needs of the school and how to prioritize aspects of the schools necessities. Because I am a part of the finance committee I have learned a lot about budgeting and allocating funds which is good for me as a business major. I also learned a new level of professionalism and maturity from events that have taken place while I have been involved.

What are your goals for the future?

I would like to have a high power position in a company, which would include a high salary. But I'm not greedy! I want the salary so I can create a better system for helping teenagers in Worcester County. I feel like the ones we have aren't very great. I want to open one so that teenagers can have free counseling, to create a sort of oasis to get away from some of their hardships or just hang out with their friends and do their homework. I also hope to make a scholarship for Worcester State for students. I'd also like to teach here – I hope I can be as good as some of the professors I have had here.

How do you see the things you've learned from being a student leader here at WSC helping you in your career?

Well, teambuilding will definitely help in any company, especially if that company is synergizing with another. It would also help with new employees as team work in business is really important. Communication skills are important in every day activities in the business field. Because of my experience on Senate, I could be an asset to boards in a company and make changes within that company.



THE DRINKIN' MEMORIAL

The Ravonettes' New Lust for Life

Matt Brown
Staff Writer

There are times when an album will strangle you into submission and leave you wondering, "Where was I?" **The Raveonettes**' lastest release *Lust Lust Lust* is infused with more elements and progression than few relevant artists today would dare to explore.

The Danish alternative rock duo is outfitted by musical mastermind Sune Rose Wagner (singer, songwriter, guitarist, assorted instruments) and melodic songstress Sharin Foo (singer, guitarist). *Lust Lust Lust* marks **The Raveonettes**' fourth release, following *Whip It On*, *Chain Gang of Love*, and *Pretty in Black*.

Basking in the distortion and fuzz of electric static and pulsating melody, "Aly, Walk with Me" travels down dim-lit alleys with darkened night skies overhead. As though it belongs in a gritty film noir, the song creates a dreamscape to which the album never escapes, with much satisfaction.

Wearing its influences on its sleeves, *Lust Lust Lust* rips pages out of 60s surf guitar, electric rhythm and experimental chaos. From pop sing-a-longs of "You Want the Candy," to the reverb-injected, hand-clapping "Blitzed," the record absorbs its audience in a trance that one would wish to never have to leave. Tracks such as the somber "Blush" and the seamless "With My Eyes Closed," slow to a controlled bliss and sweet rapture.

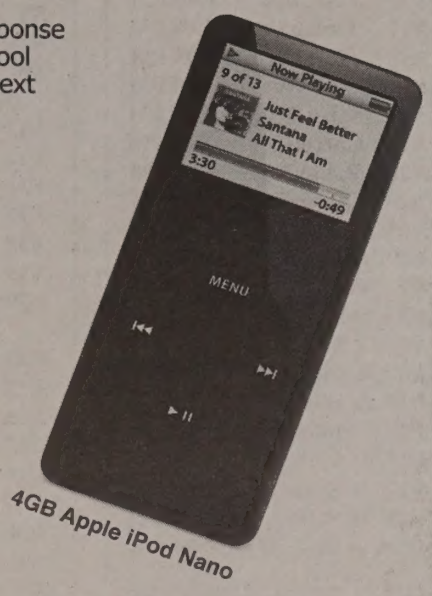
One of the few detractors to the album is the feeling of getting lost through the middle of the record. It's easy to fall into songs and lose the ending of one and the beginning of another.

Lust Lust Lust barrels through the norm leaving a wake of originality and defiance to the mainstream standard of alternative rock. For a reprieve from the average, welcome in this new release from the Raveonettes'.

Enter to Win

Students - WSC now has an emergency response system to notify you of emergencies and school closings. You can be notified via cell phone, text message, Email and/or pager.

Register your contact info in the emergency response system and you will be entered in a drawing for a **4GB Apple iPod Nano**. Grand prize is a **Dell D360 laptop**.

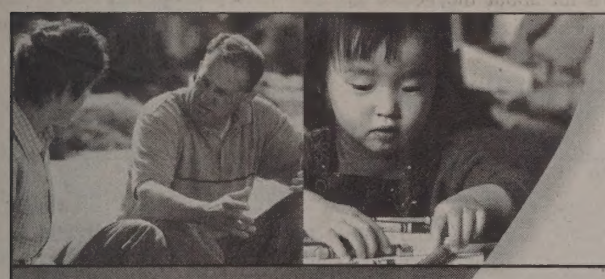


Weekly drawings for the iPod Nano will be on Feb. 18, Feb. 25, March 3 and March 10. Drawing for the laptop will be on March 17. Winners will be notified via their WSC email address.

Sign up beginning February 11

Go to https://community.worcester.edu
Log-in with your WSC user name and password
Click on link to Emergency Response System

WORCESTER
State College



Build your future at South Bay

At South Bay, our strategy is simple: hire talented, dedicated individuals and provide them with the training and resources necessary to develop new skills and pursue professional goals.

We would love for you to *visit us at* the Worcester State College Information Session.

February 28th

Our supportive organization provides a competitive salary and comprehensive benefits package and numerous professional development opportunities. South Bay is committed to diversity, welcoming bilingual and multicultural applicants.

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***To apply for any of our openings, please submit your resume and cover letter to** jobs@southbaymentalhealth.com or via fax to (508) 580-5162.*

South Bay Mental Health

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Reasons to see 27 Dresses

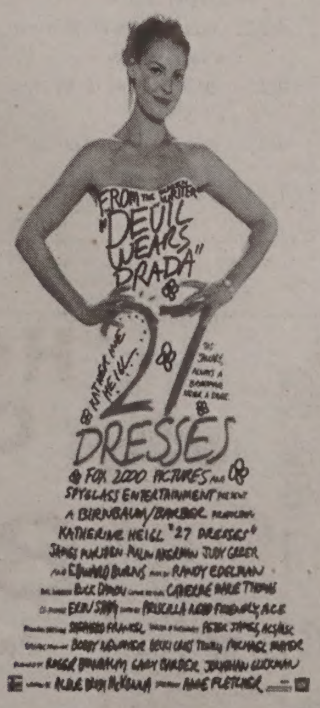
Joanna Good
Staff Writer

Why should you see 27 Dresses? This movie's charming combination of talented actors, witty dialogue and on screen chemistry is the key to the film's success. If you like romantic comedies, then this is a must see.

Katherine Heigl, of *Grey's Anatomy* fame, plays Jane, a thirty-something who is head-over-heels for her oblivious boss, George (Edward Burns). She is, quite literally, always the bridesmaid and never the bride, twenty-seven times to be exact. However, she hasn't given up hope that she will find a love like her parents'. Malin Akerman (The Heartbreak Kid) plays her younger sister, Tess, who unknowingly steals George from her. Now Jane is forced to once again be the bridesmaid, this time in her own sister's wedding. James Marsden, (*10th and Wolf* and *Enchanted)* plays Kevin, the endearing journalist for the commitment columns. He sneaks his way into Jane's life (and heart) to get a story for his next article. There is definitely on-screen chemistry between them building until the very end of the movie.

The back and forth dialogue between Jane and Kevin is quick-witted and delivered with just the right punch and timing. It's hard not to root for these two to finally find each other and move past the unrequited loves in their lives. Humor and bad singing (Heigl and Marsden) is added to soften the sadness and rejection Jane and Kevin are faced with.

The characters are well-developed and spark every time they are on screen together. One of the more memorable quotes from the movie is by Marsden's character, Kevin, "Love is patient, love is kind, love is slowly going out of our mind." You're guaranteed to laugh throughout the film, as each line is certainly better than the next.



K.T. Tatara Tells How

Chrissy Kenney
Staff Writer

On February 6, comedian K.T. Tatara kept students laughing in the North South Auditorium of the Student Center. Sponsored by the Student Events Committee, K.T. performed a lighthearted set, covering everything from hitting on women to his strange roommate experiences.

The comedian embraced his Asian ethnicity, cracking countless jokes about the stereotypes often associated with his culture. At one point, Tatara even pointed out student Nathan Yelle from the audience for his similar appearance to Tatara, accusing Yelle of stealing his image. As Tatara's time on stage progressed, his jokes developed an increasingly daring manner, most of which were based around sexual humor.

Tatara never failed to keep the audience rowdy and giggling, never allowing a dull moment into his performance. However, the most interesting part of his show was his conclusion.

K.T. ended his performance by requesting the audience to ask him personal, advice-seeking questions about their love lives and friendly relationships. Possibly caught off guard by this odd demand, students did not at first warm up to this idea; however, with a bit of coaxing by Tatara, a few students bravely offered up situations in their lives in which they wanted advice. One student questioned his own abilities on figuring out if a girl was "crazy" or not. Another student wanted to know how to escape the "friend-zone." As more and more questions piled in, Tatara interestingly made his responses slightly humorous, but he also gave each question a considerably helpful answer. At the surprise of Worcester State students, K.T. seems to be a reliable listener and advisor.

By ending his show with such an unusual finish, Tatara left students interested and intrigued by his performance. Earlier in his show, he made a joke that someone from our school newspaper would write a horrible review about his performance, but I reassured him after the show that such an article would be impossible to write; K.T. Tatara left his uncanny impression on Worcester State students as our February comedian guest.

Intern
(continued from first page)

you have any suggestions?" At that moment I must have grown a third eyeball. Or maybe there was a giant spider nesting in my hair. Whatever the reason, she looked terrified and confused. As a supervisor, one might expect to actually, well, I don't know, *help* those employees or interns beneath the superior positions of authority. The only "help" I was given however, was this one word answer: "MySpace."

Sargent's Sox Notes

Patrick K Sargent
Sports Editor

Coco vs. Jacoby

Things are heating up in Fort Myers as the Red Sox management will have to make a decision as to who will start in centerfield on opening day. Last season, Coco Crisp was planted in the middle of the outfield for the most of the season before being hip-checked out of the lineup during the playoffs by the spectacular play of September call-up Jacoby Ellsbury.

Crisp has caught the attention of the media circus that is Red Sox spring training, and has voiced his hope to be the starter for 2008. Many thought that Ellsbury would have easily slid in and taken Crisp's spot when there were early discussions of shopping Crisp around. Both players were part of talks in December for former Twins pitcher Johan Santana, now a New York Met.

According to general manager Theo Epstein, the Sox have begun spring training with an open mind and will wait to see who plays their way into the starting lineup. In an article in the Boston Globe, Epstein "insisted that people are mistaken to assume the center field job is automatically go

Schilling's Ailing Arm

In usual Schilling-style, the Red Sox starting pitcher has grabbed the majority of Red Sox headlines. This time it's for Schilling's shoulder. At the end of last season, the Sox signed Schilling to a one-year $8 million contract. Last month, the Sox found out that Schilling needed shoulder surgery.

After much debate between the team and Schilling's doctor, the pitcher has agreed to concede to the team's demands and will opt for rehab instead of surgery. The team hopes to have him return by the All-Star break. It is expected that rookie Clay Buchholz will replace him in the rotation. Buchholz threw a no-hitter in his second major-league start last September against the Orioles.

Colon Signs with Sox

According to ESPN.com, the Red Sox have agreed to a minor-league contract with former L.A. Angels pitcher Bartolo Colon. Although Colon will more than likely start the season in Triple-A, the Sox hope to use him as an insurance plan in case Schilling doesn't return or Buchholz and Lester don't work out.

Colon finished with a 6-8 record and 6.34 ERA in an injury-riddled season of 2007. In 2005, Colon won the American League Cy Young Award.

Francona Inks Extension

Red Sox manager Terry Francona has agreed to a three-year contract extension worth $12 million. Francona has compiled a 22-9 postseason record in his first four years with the Red Sox and has managed the team to two World Series Championships. The contract will allow Francona to manage the team until 2011. There are two one-year club options that will make the contract worth upwards of $20 million. The option needs to be exercised together at the end of the 2011 season.

Manny Being a Free Agent

Although Manny Ramirez can be a free agent after the 2008 season, the Red Sox hold $20 million options for 2009 and 2010. According to the Amalie Benjamin of the Boston Globe, Ramirez says, "They're the ones who've got my options, it's up to them to say, 'OK, we're going to pay.' It's not up to me to go into the office and demand a four-year deal, or whatever. I'm going to come here to play the game, finish my year. If they want me to come back, I'll come back.

"I want to finish my career here, but it's up to them," Ramirez said. "If that doesn't happen, hey, I'll go and play somewhere else. I know I can still play and what else can I say? It's up to them. I'm not the one who writes the checks."

Golf

Date	Opponent
4/2	@ Mass collegiates (Stow)
4/4	@ Rhode Island College (Triggs)
4/12	@ UMass Dartmouth (Allendale)
4/22	Sterling Invitational (Sterling)
4/25	@ Johnson & Wales (TBA)
4/39	@ Franklin Pierce (The Shattuck)

WSC Sports Schedules

SoftBall

Date	Opponent	Time
3/17	Ply. State	1:00 PM
3/17	Finlandia	3:00 PM
3/18	R. Williams	1:00 PM
3/18	C. of Wooster	3:00 PM
3/19	Salve Regina	9:00 AM
3/19	Carroll	1:00 PM
3/20	R. Stockton	11:00 AM
3/20	Lasell College	1:00 PM
3/25	R.I. College	3:00 PM
3/29	Bridgewater	12:00 PM
4/2	Elms College	5:00PM
4/3	@ W. Conn	5:00 PM
4/5	@ Mass Mari	12:00 PM
4/8	@ Clark	3:30PM
4/12	@ Westfield	12:00PM
4/15	Fitchburg	5:00 PM
4/16	@ WPI	3:30 PM
4/17	Nichols	5:00 PM
4/19	@ Salem	12:00 PM
4/21	@ MCLA*	12:00 PM

Coming Soon! WSC Pride Alliance!

Be on the lookout for announcements including meeting place and more info. To be added to the email list contact: amusgrovelecours @worcester.edu and fmisale@worcester.edu

Baseball

Date	Opponent	Time
3/1	@ Rowan University	12:00 PM
3/1	@ Rowan University	--------
3/8	@ William Paterson	12:00 PM
3/8	@ William Paterson	-------
3/15-3/22	Spring Break in Port Charlotte, FL	
3/15	Fairleigh Dickinson	11:30 AM
3/16	Heidelberg	10:00 AM
3/17	Gordon College	11:30 AM
3/18	Fontbonne	10:00 AM
3/19	Wisconsin-Whitewater	11:30 AM
3/20	Wisconsin-Stevens Point	11:00 AM
3/21	Hamilton College	12:00 PM
3/22	Bethel College	9:30 AM
3/25	@ Albertus Magnus	3:00 PM
3/27	@ WPI	3:30 PM
3/29	Bridgewater State*	12:00 PM
3/29	Bridgewater State*	---------
3/30	@ Babson College	1:00 PM
4/1	Endicott College	3:30 PM
4/3	UMass-Boston	3:00 PM
4/5	@ Mass Maritime*	12:00 PM
4/5	@ Mass Maritime*	----------
4/7	WPI	3:30 PM
4/9	@ Anna Maria College	3:30 PM
4/12	@ Westfield State*	12:00 PM
4/12	@ Westfield State*	----------
4/13	Nichols College	1:00 PM
4/15	Fitchburg State College*	2:00 PM
4/15	Fitchburg State College*	----------
4/16	Salve Regina University	4:00 PM
4/17	Suffolk University	3:30 PM
4/19	@ Salem State College*	12:00 PM
4/19	@ Salem State College*	----------
4/20	Eastern Connecticut	1:00 PM
4/21	@ MCLA*	12:00 PM
4/21	@ MCLA*	----------
4/23	Rhode Island College	4:00 PM
4/24	Becker College	2:00 PM
4/24	Becker College	---------
4/26	Framingham State College*	12:00 PM
4/26	Framingham State College*	----------
4/27	Colby-Sawyer College	12:00 PM

Women's Lacrosse

Date	Opponent	Time
3/25	Western Connecticut	7:00 PM
3/27	@ Emerson College*	5:30 PM
3/29	Becker College*	12:00 PM
4/1	Castleton State*	6:00 PM
4/3	Elms College*	4:00 PM
4/8	Fitchburg State*	6:00 PM
4/10	Roger Williams	6:00 PM
4/12	@ Thomas College*	1:00 PM
4/15	@ Bridgewater State*	4:00 PM
4/19	Westfield State*	12:00 PM
4/22	@ Rhode Island College	6:00 PM
4/24	UMass Dartmouth	7:00 PM
4/26	@ Framingham State*	12:00 PM

HOLY NAME OF JESUS CATHOLIC CHURCH
2.3 MILES FROM WSC
8:15 P.M. MASS EVERY SUNDAY
PROUDLY CELEBRATING OUR FAITH WITH MUSIC FROM ONE OF OUR COUNTRY'S ORIGINAL GENRES: THE BLUES
myspace.com/holynamebluesband
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Movie Review: Step Up Two: The Streets Steps it up in the Sequel

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WSC Group paints Worcester State Green

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The Student Voice

The Official Paper of Worcester State College

Wednesday, March 12, 2008

Volume 4, Number 5

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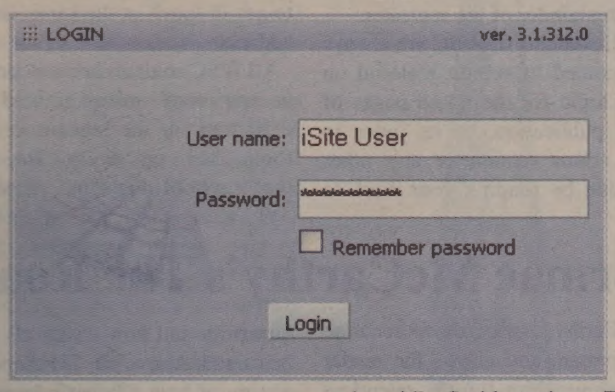
New Password Policy Raises Security Concerns



Jeff Moffett
Staff Writer

On March 3rd, Worcester State College implemented a new password policy to help strengthen the security of its networks. The policy required users to immediately change their old password. All users from then on will be required to change their password every 120 days. The logic behind this policy is to prevent someone from accessing your information for more than three months without you knowing. Is this the most secure policy Worcester State could implement?

Many experts disagree with the changing password policy. Richard E. Smith, Ph.D. writes that password changes will greatly increase traffic to IT. "Human short-term memory can, on average, remember between five and nine things of a particular kind: letters, digits, words, or other well-recognized categories. Many organizations require eight-character passwords, which lie on the optimistic end of peoples' ability to memorize". More users will forget their password since it is not something they have committed to long-term memory. Information Technologies will have to handle a rapid increase in requests for password lookups, hypothetically stalling progress on other vital network functions. Smith estimates that between 20 and 50 percent of all help desk calls are password related.

Another problem with forced password changes is the tendency to choose easy to memorize, but in most cases easy to guess, passwords. When a user has to consistently change their passwords, it is likely they will choose something they will not forget, as to forgo lost productivity by being denied access to the network. "When faced with the expired password, she must immediately think of one and accurately type it without seeing its text, since most systems don't like to display passwords. It is particularly difficult for people to memorize text without ever seeing it", Smith writes. This password may likely be a simple name or song title, both easily guessed with the proper software.

If a user actually creates a hard to guess password, they will more than likely write it down somewhere near their computer. Smith writes that passwords are found written "near workstations at least 4% of the time (coincidentally, about 4% of users choose a password that matches their user name). In sites that require periodic password changes, however, the rate has been as high as 39%. Under the best circumstances, then, an attacker can uncover a password by searching 12 or 13 desktops in well-behaved sites, and as few as 2 or 3 desktops in some sites. This thoroughly undermines the security objectives sought by periodic password changes." A quick check of a professor or roommates desk would likely yield a stick note with their most recent password.

In his email to students regarding the change, Chief Information Officer Dr. Donald Vescio noted many ways to produce a secure password. A strong password should be at least seven characters long. It should contain no full dictionary words as well as contain at least one uppercase letter, lowercase letter, number, and keyboard symbol. Save passwords in a more secure location than your desk drawer. If you believe your password has been compromised, you can change it prior to the three-month expiration.

For Dr. Richard E. Smith's full article on password security, so to www.smat.us/sanity/expharmful.html

Obama Rally Never Denied

Thomas W. Marino III
Editor in Chief

A rally for presidential candidate Barak Obama (D-IL), attended by Massachusetts governor Deval Patrick (D), was held at Clark University on February 2. During the week after the event an abundance of sources reported to the Voice that the event had been offered to be held on the WSC campus by the governor's office.

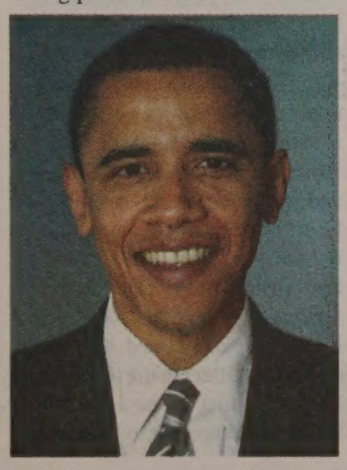
Included in several of these reports was the allegation that the WSC president's office had rejected the offer. After investigation, the Voice has determined that these allegations are false, and that the president's office acted appropriately in attempting to attract the rally.

Judy St. Amand, executive assistant in WSC president Janelle Ashley's office, said that Susan Pierce, a volunteer with Women for Obama Massachusetts, called to inquire about the availability of a facility to hold the rally. St. Amand said on a second phone call that she informed Pierce that Sullivan Auditorium would be available for use for the event.

However, an issue still remained: it is not proper for the college itself to sponsor political rallies. Instead, a student organization must sponsor the event to take place on campus. Pierce was connected with student trustee, Brandon Huggon. After discussing SGA sponsoring the event, it was made clear to Pierce that WSC's facilities were open to host it.

In an interview with the Voice, Pierce stated that both St. Amand and Huggon were incredibly accommodating. She also stated that her role was to survey Worcester area colleges for available facilities. No offer to have the rally was ever made to any official at WSC. St. Amand said that the president's office "would never say no to the governor."

According to both Pierce and St. Amand, Clark students sent over 100 emails to the governor's office within hours of Pierce's call there. It was the governor's office that decided the rally would be taking place at Clark.



Dr. Mary Ellen Meegan Out of Hospital, Recovering

Thomas W. Marino III
Editor in Chief

WSC education professor, Dr. Mary Ellen Meegan, took a terrible fall in the Learning Resources Center on January 31, fracturing her skull and causing brain swelling. Her resulting condition was very serious. She is now resting at home, walking with support, talking, reading and writing.

Dr. Elaine Tateronis, a fellow education professor as well as a chairperson of the department, told the Voice that Meegan's doctors have called her recovery "remarkable."
Tateronis says that Meegan has already come a long way since her fall but still has a long way to go. A successful surgery was performed to relieve pressure on her brain and she is now looking at a recovery time of several months.

She will receive a more accurate prognosis from her doctors next week. Tateronis also said that Meegan's sister has been "fantastic" in keeping the department updated on her progress.

Meegan was teaching a full-time, twelve credit course load before the accident, but none of her classes have been cancelled. Instead, the education faculty has stepped up to cover her classes. "After Mary Ellen's health, our next concern was the students," says Tateronis. She spoke to all four of Meegan's classes after the accident occurred.

Tateronis, who arrived at the scene after the ambulance, reported that Meegan was talking and saying "Don't worry, I'll be fine."

Another witness at the scene, Dr. Kelly Ann Boone of the communication sciences and disorders department, declined to be interviewed by or make comment to the Voice.

Meegan joined Worcester State College in 1971 and received both her M.Ed. and Ph.D. from Boston College. She did her undergraduate work at Framingham State College.

Students are encouraged to send letters and notes of encouragement to Meegan via the education department on the second floor of the Sullivan Academic Center.

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THE VOICE

Worcester State College's Student Newspaper

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Elizabeth Bidinger

The Student Voice of
Worcester State College

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From the Desk of: The Editor in Chief

Letter from the Editor
By Thomas W. Marino III

The Student Voice wishes to congratulate the WSC Third World Alliance and all other sponsors of the appearance of Princeton scholar Dr. Cornell West on March 3. It was amazing to see 1100 plus people hear a scholar speak on this campus. His lecture was thought provoking and inspiring.

Given the magnitude of this fantastic event, the Voice would like to ask any student who attended the lecture to contribute to this publication in its future editions. Critical (Socratic?) analysis of the content of Dr. West's lecture is welcomed, as well as any other insight you have into the events of March 3. We would love to have a series of dialogs about the very important issues that Dr. West raised as an ongoing feature in the Voice for the remainder of the semester.

All students of WSC are always welcomed to submit material on any topic for the op-ed pages of this publication, to its letter to the editor section or any other section by sending your work to studentvoice@worcester.edu.

On a completely different note, the edition of the Voice due for release on March 27 will continue the "Student Vice" April Fools day tradition of this publication. Fiction writers are encouraged to get in touch at the same email address.

All WSC students are welcomed at our staff meeting held at 2:30 p.m. in the student center room 317 on every Tuesday that school is in session.

Book Review: Cormac McCarthy's The Road

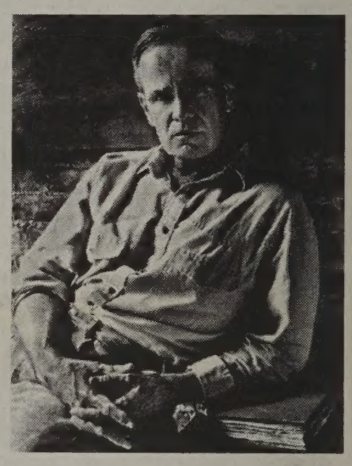
Patrick K Sargent
Staff Writer

Cormac McCarthy has taken a very different path with style and dialogue in his writing, and the beauty of this is clearly present in his latest novel, *The Road*. A National Book Critic Circle Award Finalist and national bestseller, *The Road* is story about a man and his son's journey through a destroyed and desolate America.

Pushing along a cart of food and warm clothing, the father and boy are pushed to the limit as they struggle to get to the West Coast in hopes of finding other "good" people like themselves, and avoiding the "bad" people that may have been responsible for the destruction of the country. McCarthy portrays the father as an everyman, and allows the reader to admire him for his relentless determination to stay alive and to protect his son.

Through the use of short, striking sentences and quick, unpunctuated dialogue, McCarthy is able to pass through time while still engrossing his reader's with the pain and sacrifice that these two characters must endure on their trek. Both characters share the attention of the novel, without either one really being an overwhelming read or taking control of the reader's interest.

Named a New York Times Notable Book, McCarthy's *The Road* is an easy read that keeps its audience engrossed and consistently emphasizes the power that human beings hold over all of humanity and how easily all can be ruined. Above all, *The Road* is a story of how a father's love for his son can help overcome any disaster.



Academy Awards Wrap Up

Staff Writer

On February 24, 2008, the Kodak Theater in Hollywood hosted the 80th Academy Awards where the red carpet was painted with hundreds of celebrities, dressed to perfection and radiating enthusiasm for the night's festivities. Actresses such as Cameron Diaz and Katherine Heigl took us back to the class and sophistication of the Old Hollywood scene. George Clooney dazzled the red carpet with his usual charisma. James McAvoy, Hollywood's newest heart throb, flashed his winning smile, charming the millions of girls watching the television.

When everyone was seated, Jon Stuart, the host, came on to stage ready to dazzle the group with some laughs. He made light of many serious topics and he truly shined as a host. The writer's strike had finally come to an end and he reflected on it with this line, ""I'm happy to say the fight is over - so tonight, welcome to the make-up sex." He just kept feeding more great lines to the crowd. He mentioned the theme of psycho killers in the top movies and top actors in the Hollywood scene. He responds to this theme with, "Does this town need a hug? All I can say is, thank God for teen pregnancy," referring to the hit movie, *Juno*.

Between the comedic lines and the recapping of past moments in the 80 years of Oscar moments there were some outstanding winners. Here is a list of the major winners:

Daniel Day-Lewis
("There Will Be Blood")

("No Country for Old Men")

("La Vie en Rose")

"Michael Clayton"

"Ratatouille"
(Walt Disney)

"No Country for Old Men"
(Miramax and Paramount Vantage) Joel Coen and Ethan Coen

"Atonement"
(Focus Features)
Dario Marianelli

"No Country for Old Men"

"Juno"
Written by Diablo Cody

Johnny Depp fans were sad again to see him walk away without an Oscar, but there is still hope for him.

Some of the winners such as best actress, supporting actor and actress were not extremely well known, at least people not well acquainted with the Hollywood business. It was somewhat of a shock to see new faces win the awards.

Diablo Cody won the Oscar for Original screenplay for *Juno*. Its unique portrayal of adolescence shows how deeply our actions can affect the rest of our lives. Cody was an exotic dancer and now is holding an Oscar in her hands. The Hollywood scene is constantly changing and adding new unique talent every day.

Womans Studies Mini Conference

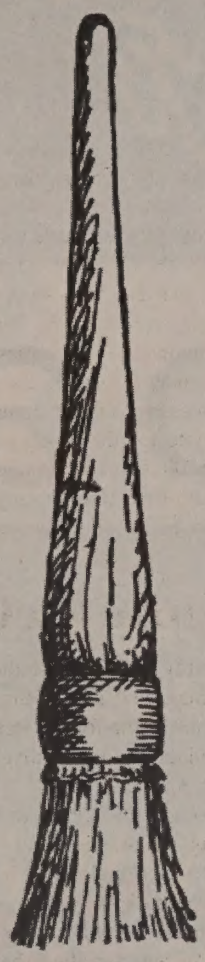
Joanna Good
Staff Writer

Judith Jeon-Chapman, Language and Literature Professor at WSC, was one of the speakers at the Women's Studies Mini-Conference held on Thursday, March 6. She received her Doctorate at the University of Washington and is currently writing a medieval fantasy novel.

Jeon-Chapman, all smiles, gave a lecture on the Cults of Anis, Diana, and Mary in Le Puy-en-Velay using a well set up power point. She went into detail about the history and culture of Le Puy-en-Velay, located in south-central France, as well as the mythologies created in this area.

The more interesting descriptions given included the Chapelle St. Michael d'Aiguille and the Dolmen. Pilgrims considered climbing the Chapelle a great accomplishment and a way of praying with their feet. The Dolmen, a pre-Druid monument, is located on Mt. Anis and is believed to have curative powers. She also shared her knowledge on the relationship between the Starbucks logo and Melusine, a serpent goddess with amazing powers. Melusine is also located on the Cathedral of Notre Dame.

Jeon-Chapman gave the presentation with an ease that captured the audience's attention. In fact it seemed more of a cultured talk between friends than dreary lecture. Overall the conference was informative yet pleasantly engaging.



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Monday, March 24, 2008

Artistic Sexuality

Staff Writer

Kitschy pop-artist Lisa Yaskavage's oil on canvas painting "The Aristocrats," at first glance may be classified as manga-porn. Two young girls stare confidently at the viewer, naked with the exception of striped knee-socks, and a shutter wire is tied to one girl's finger which suggests that we have perhaps walked in on a risqué MySpace photo shoot. But what is it about Yaskavage's paintings that specify them as art rather than porn?

The anime and manga craze of Japanese graphic novels has spread to the U.S. and has assimilated into a newer, more graphic version of "cute" pop-art. On Thursday, March 6th, Dr. Catherine Wilcox-Titus presented these ideas and questioned the artistic abilities of Yaskavage and artists like her, as part of the Women's Studies Mini-Conference. Dr. Wilcox-Titus' presentation, appropriately titled "Cute as the Aesthetic Form," gave a brief history of contemporary Japanese art and its familiar muse of the Shojo (cartoonish teen girls representing a sexual fantasy world).

These "Lolita-esque" characters have all the normal physical traits of a young teenage girl: small nose, wide eyes, wild tendrils of hair, and then adds to them overdeveloped and hypersexual bodies. The pubescent stages of sexual identification have become a taboo topic of fascination for many anime fans.

However, an uprising of art critics have recently dubbed the new art form "distasteful" and "disturbing," a view that many Worcester State students held during the presentation as well. Within a group of about fifteen to twenty students, the overall consensus of Yaskavage's art was "Eww, gross."

Is the portrayal of a young girl exploring her newly developed sexuality pushing the boundaries? Or is it an "escapist fantasy of social compliance?"

Dr. Wilcox-Titus' rationale as to why these younger girls are so appealing to a variety of ages and genders today is "the unknowing power" that pubescent girls have over their admirers. She discusses the "sexual in between-ness" of these pre-teens and the combination of their narcissistic self-absorption and idealized romantic love that drives many young women to pose for the camera in reality. The bottom line is, according to many students, "sex sells" and artists will do just about anything in order to make a profit.

Unfortunately, sexuality of young women is a consumer driven product in itself, and it does boost sales, but there is more than meets the eye under the oils of Yaskavage's works.

Isn't the whole point of art to produce a reaction? Whether this reaction or emotion is sadness, triumph, anger, or in this case shame or embarrassment, the art itself has achieved what it was meant to achieve, just by being taboo. The sophistication and intelligence of Yaskavage's pornographic caricature art lies within the forced emotions that we as the viewers cannot avoid feeling. The entertainment industry has made it almost impossible to shock audiences of the twenty first century, and now, the natural sexual curiosity of adolescents is being scrutinized as "voyeuristic."

What about these images are we so afraid of? Sexuality is inevitable and now, when artists are courageously illustrating a more graphic side of human nature, the work is scolded. It's quite a surprise, especially when the negative criticisms are coming from the lips of a younger and more accepting crowd of educated students.

A word of advice to those frightened art cynics: try to not only open your eyes, but open your *mind* as well.

St. Patrick's Day Weekend Events

Friday March 14th

Irish Contemporary Trio
Fergus- CD Release party
Fiddler's Green Pub and Restaurant

830pm-12am
Cost: Free

Drunken Uncles
McFadden's
50 Front St
5pm-8pm
Cost: Free

Saturday March 15th

Come Get Shamrocked at the Lights
The Lights Sports Pub
395 Grafton St
8pm-2am
Cost: Free

Pre-St. Patrick's Day Show with *Songs for Ceilidh*
Greyhound Pub
11 Kelley Sq
9:30pm-12am
Cost: Free

Sunday March 16th

80s Rock with the *Sunset Strippers*
Lucky Dog Music Hall
89 Green St.
9pm-2am
Cost: $5 or free with printed pass

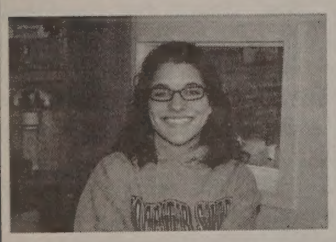
Irish Sessiun
Fiddler's Green Pub and Restaurant
19 Temple St
4pm-8pm
Cost: Free

Monday March 17th- St. Patrick's Day

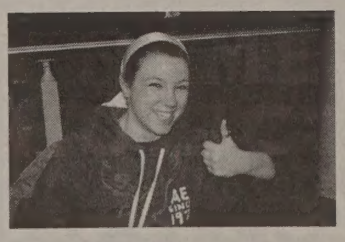
The Highland Rovers
Irish Times
244 Main St
10AM-2AM
Cost: Free

Voice Off: What Issue is Important to You?

By: Joanna Good

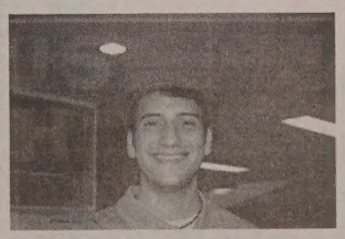


Ashley Woodman:
I don't think we should have a woman president because men and woman handle things differently.



Atiana Venoit:
The economy is becoming a big issue. It's easy to see the changes, like the rise of gas prices."

Tasha Matthews:
It's important to elect someone who is going to stand by what they say.



Ryan Patacchoila:
The economy and the market because that's the way the world works. The New York stock exchange is the largest stock exchange in the world. It's not about what you have but what you can do with what you have.

Shawn Burgess:
The economy because we are heading into or are already in a resession or depression. For instance, the subprime mortage press.

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LOCAL MUSIC SPOTLIGHT: CASTINE

Matthew Brown
Staff Writer

Hailing from the dirty streets of Worcester, Castine bring viable pride back to a stagnant Worcester music scene.

Castine, a three piece outfit, is comprised of Mike Kittredge (Singer/Songwriter, Guitar), Tom Morris (Bass Guitar) and Greg Hyder (Drums). The group has been around for three years now and shows no signs of letting up.

Recent achievement nods include nominations in 2006 Pulse Magazine's Best New Act, 2007 Worcester Magazine's Best New Band, Best Rock Act, and Best Live Act, and 2008 Worcester Magazine's Turtle Boy Music Award's Best Pop Band.

Castine creates a sound best described as sporadic, alternative rock Hyder, a recent Worcester State College graduate, further elaborates detailing, "We're not your traditional band. When we're creating new songs we each feed off of one another and then Mike puts his trademark melodies to our sounds. We don't question, we just listen."

Kittredge, the spark to the Castine sound, is a recent Suffolk University graduate and the mastermind behind the songwriting process. Morris, a current Worcester State College student says, in regards to the songwriting process, "He [Kittredge] will come in and say 'I got a new song, it's in A minor', and he'll play the song and maybe one little part is in A minor and the rest is this off-the-wall elaboration that you can't even follow when you first hear it."

Notable venues include Ralph's Diner, Tammany Hall, Lucky Dog, and O'Brien's Bar in Boston.

Castine recently recorded a three song EP titled "Mr. Henry's Walk", an EP that infuses the band's wide range of influences from Tom Waits to Led Zepplin, Sufjan Stevens to Neutral Milk Hotel, and the Pixies to Vampire Weekend. The EP was recorded by Roger Lavalley at the Tremelo Lounge in West Boylston. Hyder described that they "debut every new song live first and see how it works out with the crowd".

The group has begun to book less shows in the effort of increasing the writing front for a new LP, but the group does hope for a possible New England tour come summer.

As the interview unravels and the ambitions for the group are discussed Hyder options to Morris, "We should have an 'Underpants and Scarves Only' show." Hyder, only adding to the comedic relief, when asked what people may want to know about the band left only the response of, "I sleep naked."

The group regained their serious intents when relaying the future of the band, "Maybe if I was drinking whiskey instead of coffee right now" says Hyder and Morris, "I'd throw out some Madonna line like 'We're going to rule the world', but we're a little more practical. A major label would be nice but all we really want to do is just play rock and roll music."

For more information on Castine visit CastineMusic.com or visit their Myspace at myspace.com/castinemusic.

Stepping It Up In The Sequel

Liz Malone
Staff Writer

From the beginning to the end of the Step Up 2: The Streets, there was a defined mood of excitement that permeated the movie theatre. Everyone could not take their eyes off of the wildly creative moves displayed on the screen. The characters' energy in the movie made you want to get up out of your seat and join in with their enthusiasm towards the art of dance.

The movie stars Briana Evigan, an unfamiliar face to the Hollywood scene and Robert Hoffman, who you would have seen him in the popular teen flick, "She's the Man". Evigan plays Andie, a foster child that is forced to make a life changing decision; to either move to Texas with a family member or attend the Maryland School of Arts, so she could stay in her home town, with the people she loved. The plot is similar to the first, but this time, a girl needs some reshaping in order to get her life in line.

Andie's after school activities created conflict with her dancing team from the streets. She soon was kicked off, but found herself in the welcoming arms of Chase. Chase had a vision of starting a new team that could compete in the streets. Although, Andie had her doubts, she and Chase formed an ecliptic group of people, from all different backgrounds, that displayed satisfactory dance moves. Although they are rejected by the people Andie used to associate with, they strive to prove their worth in the dancing world.

The movie's dancing is better than the first, but the love story is not as intense and upfront as the first movie. The two main characters have a definite chemistry, and it is portrayed through their efforts on the dance floor. The sequel focuses more on dancing and how people can set aside their differences and show what their made off, which I believe is the central theme of the movie.

This movie proves again our culture's appreciation for dance as a creative way for people to express themselves. The ending alone in this sequel is a good enough reason to see their amazing performance and what they worked so hard to achieve. Despite the less than perfect acting, the movie centers on dancing. You will find yourself at the end of this movie, dancing out the doors with a smile on your face.

Ms. Power, We Want The Old You Back

Jacqueline Morrill
Staff Writer

Chan Marshall (pronounced Shawn), better known as the indie-rock songstress Cat Power, has after about a year and a half, returned from the darkness of rehab and self discovery. Fortunately for her fans, not only is she recovering, but she's also recorded a new record of cover songs, most of which seem to act as self-approval of her rehabilitation.

The second covers collection, appropriately titled "Jukebox," opens with Marshall's own "Metal Heart," a song that could easily be played as background music for any depressing Zach Braff movie. The piano chords and Marshall's signature raspy voice are reminiscent of PJ Harvey. Unfortunately, Marshall's sincerity can't touch Harvey's and so, the lyrics are simply words without emotion.

She wallows in self-pity for most of the song and ends on a hopeful note, "you will be changed" which might suggest an inner change for Marshall. A review in Rolling Stone magazine begged the question, "Is Marshall singing to her old self, about her old self?" As poignant of a question as this may be, I doubt Marshall has delved that deep into this new record. It is after all, just a collection of covers.

Marshall attempts to make original songs from the likes of Janis Joplin, James Brown, and Joni Mitchell, her own, but like so many cover albums, the originals are better. We catch a glimpse of Marshall's bluesy roots on "A Woman Left Lonely," but in comparison to Janis Joplin's wailing powerhouse of a voice, Marshall's rendition sounds more like a drunken karaoke number. On "Aretha, Sing One for Me," Marshall's mellow voice clashes with the sunny enthusiasm of the band behind her which eventually leads to a choppy, somber artificiality that would undoubtedly send fearful shivers up George Jackson's spine.

It's sad to think that Marshall's infamous indie-rock reputation has led her to this present day album of trite soul tunes. Past albums such as "The Greatest" and "You Are Free" were unique, stylish, and representative of the tortured woman Marshall had become. But like so many angry rock stars of the past, Alanis Morisette and Tori Amos included, once the rage has vanished, and once the wounds have healed, we, the audience, are left singing along with a skin of our former idols while they depart from the stage with hopes of living happily ever after.

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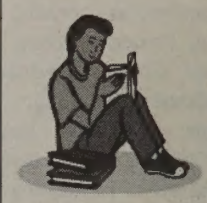
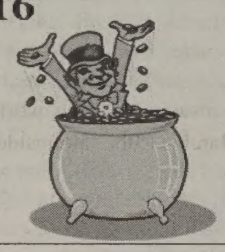
March Student Activities Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Abbreviations *BL: Blue Lounge* *OLP: One Lancer Place* *SC: Student Center* *SHL: Seven Hills Lounge* *CMH: Campus Ministry House* *ST: Science & Tech* *N/S: North/South Auditorium* *DHL: Dowden Hall Lounge* *EA: Exhibit Area* *TWA: Third World Alliance* *SEC: Student Events Committee* *LVTV: LancerVision TV* *SGA: Student Government Association* *CA: Campus Ambassadors* *SC/SA: Stu. Ctr/Stu. Activities Office*						**1** CA & TWA: Revolution Blue Lounge 6pm-12am
2 Catholic Mass 6pm, DHL	**3**	**4** CA Pasta Dinner 5pm CMH CA Multitude 7pm, N/S TWA Dance Lessons SHL 7pm 8pm LVTV: Happy Hour, Channel 11	**5** SEC Comedian: N/S, 8:30pm	**6** SGA Silent Auction, EA 11am-2pm Live Auction, 5:30pm, BL	**7** SC/SA & SEC: Bouncy Boxing & Ice Cream Bar, EA 7-10pm	**8** 
9 SC/SA: Jewelry Making, OLP, 2pm Catholic Mass 6pm, DHL	**10** Career Services: Kraft Foods Info Session (lunch provided by Kraft) 12noon, South Auditorium	**11** CA Pasta Dinner 5pm CMH CA Multitude 7pm, N/S TWA Dance Lessons SHL 7pm 8pm LVTV: Happy Hour, Channel 11	**12** Sr. Trip: Celtics Bus leaves 3:45pm SEC Hump Day Harmony 8:30pm, OLP	**13** Career Services: *"How to Work a Career Fair"* 12:30pm North Aud. (bring your lunch)	**14**	**15**
16 	**17** ***St. Patrick's Day***	**18**	**19**	**20** ***Spring Begins***	**21** ***Good Friday***	**22**
23 ***Easter Sunday***	**24**	**25** CA Pasta Dinner 5pm CMH CA Multitude 7pm, N/S TWA Dance Lessons SHL 7pm 8pm LVTV: Happy Hour, Channel 11	**26** COWC Career Fair Daytime, DCU SEC Lecture, 11am-2pm, BL	**27** SC/SA Diversity Lecture: Mary Lightfine Blue Lounge 11:30am	**28** Sr. 50 Nights Party w/comedian DC Benny, BL 6pm (21+ yrs.)	**29** SC/SA Karaoke, OLP 7pm
30	**31**					

Spring Break

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Valiant Ending to Lady Lancers B-Ball Season

John Brown III
WSC Alumni, Class of 2002

The MASCAC tourney began at Worcester State for the ladies February 26th. The Worcester State Lancers took on the Owls of Westfield State in Worcester and in the beginning it appeared that the Lancers were going to spear the Owls. Lindsay Dellechiaie (10 pts. 7 rebounds) and Erin McCullough (4-points) had the Lancers out the gate quickly scoring the first 6-points. The Owls came back quickly draining back-to-back 3-pointers by Katie Sylvain (21 pts., 11 rebounds) to tie the game at 6. The Lancers seemed a bit out of sorts for the rest of the first half. Errant passes led to turnovers, those turnovers to Owl opportunities and points. The Lancers appeared both frustrated and stunned by the game the Owls brought with them. Lancer Junior Brianne Flanders (12 pts., 8 rebounds) was a dominant force throughout the game despite being visibly bothered by a nagging back injury.

The teams battled back and forth throughout the first half with Worcester State holding the lead only twice. Westfield State used a strong passing game and tough defense to hold the Lancers at bay. Westfield State held an 8-point lead going into the break.

The second half seemed like nothing more than Worcester State just going through the motions. They played hard, but they seemed to believe the game was out of their hands. Maureen (Mo) Lemay (8 pts., 8 rebounds) played her heart out. Even after suffering either a knee or kick to the back of the head while fighting for a rebound, she continued to battle for rebounds and block shots.

The game appeared over with just under 8:00 remaining as Westfield State had what appeared to be an insurmountable 12 point lead, but Worcester State continued to plug away. With just 44 seconds remaining in regulation the Lancers had whittled the lead to 2.

A foul by Dellechiaie sent Katie Sylvain to the line. She missed the free throw and Mo Lemay cleared the rebound for the Lancers. Coach Tessmer called a quick timeout to gather her team and set the scene for a dramatic finish.

With the play set, the Lancers took the floor. The ball was put in the hands of Senior Dellechiaie, but her shot was blocked. After a quick foul, Betty Dely (4 pts., 4 rebounds) went to the charity stripe to shoot two and ice the game for the Owls. Dely missed the first shot and buried the second, increasing the Owl lead to three.

With only 12 seconds left the Lancers in bounded the ball and a 3-point attempt by Dellechiaie was blocked by Dely, but right into the arms of Natasha Dallas (8pts, 8 rebounds). Dallas drove to the hoop, hoping to hit her shot and get fouled in the process, but alas it was not meant to be. The shot went wide and the final horn sounded ending the game.

The Lancers held their heads high throughout an up and down season. Next year, they will have to learn to do without senior leaders like Dellechiaie, Lemay and Jamara Exilus.

2007-08 WSC Women's Basketball Standings

Date	Opponent	Time	Result	Record
11/16	Clark University	5:00 PM	L 46-69	0-1
11/17	Nichols College	1:00 PM	L 46-66	0-2
11/20	UMass Dartmouth	6:00 PM	L 67-74	0-3
11/24	Wesley College	3:00 PM	L 54-63	0-4
11/25	New York University	3:00 PM	L 55-90	0-5
11/29	@ Trinity College	5:30 PM	L 57-72	0-6
12/5	Babson College	7:00 PM	W 68-63	1-6
12/8	@ Mt. Holyoke College	1:00 PM	W 67-59	2-6
12/29	@ George Fox	7:00 PM	L 32-87	2-7
1/9	Eastern Connecticut	7:00 PM	L 59-72	2-8
1/12	Springfield College	2:00 PM	L 38-64	2-9
1/15	@ Fitchburg State*	5:30 PM	L 48-73	2-10
1/19	Westfield State College*	2:00 PM	W 66-59	3-10
1/22	@ Framingham State*	5:30 PM	W 64-54	4-10
1/24	@ Tufts University	7:00 PM	L 58-67	4-11
1/26	@ MCLA*	2:00 PM	W 54-46	5-11
1/29	Bridgewater State*	6:00 PM	L 58-62	5-12
2/2	@ Salem State College*	1:00 PM	L 55-66	5-13
2/5	Fitchburg State College*	6:00 PM	L 47-55	5-14
2/9	@ Westfield State*	1:00 PM	W 66-61	6-14
2/14	Framingham State*	6:00 PM	W 77-56	7-14
2/16	MCLA*	4:00 PM	W 68-39	8-14
2/19	@ Bridgewater State*	6:00 PM	L 41-75	8-15
2/23	Salem State College*	2:00 PM	L 78-94	8-16
2/26	Westfield State	7:00 PM	L 59-62	8-17

*** MASCAC Game**

Painting Worcester State Green

Chrissy Kenney
Staff Writer

Recently recognized as a major student organization on campus, Worcester State's Environmental Advocacy Group has quite the earthy agenda for the upcoming months. Events that the group has previously participated in were the signing of the President's Climate Challenge, a document in which calls for a 20% emission reduction by the year 2020, and Focus the Nation, the largest teach-in ever in which 700 Worcester State students attended. Members also visited a coal fired power plant on a field trip. The organization seems to be excited for the many events they have planned for the spring semester, which includes the Chartwells conversion from Styrofoam to biodegradable cornstarch take out trays. The club will be sponsoring the Mountaintop removal show on April 11th, 3:30 pm at the Worcester Public Library.

Chris Noonan, an active member of the organization, states, "There is a strong and growing network of students that we have been communicating with…throughout the consortium, state and nation, to bring a stronger, more unified student voice to environmental issues on a national stage." He cannot stress the importance of student participation enough, and the organization has worked closely with MASSPIRG and the Student Activities department on campus.

EAG will be holding an animal's rights conference in March, and students are asked to contact Peter Cutting, pcutting@worcester.edu, to register for it. The group will also be participating in a garden project in the spring, as well as holding an ongoing environmental film series for interested students. The members have been part of a nation-wide rally, a "Power Shift" campaign in Washington DC as well as an upcoming one being held in Massachusetts.

"We try to keep a light atmosphere in light of the seriousness of our environmental situation," states Noonan. He boasts that the group is a great way to learn about the Earth and be involved with the community during one's college experience. Noonan gives thanks to Robert Daniels, WSC Environmental Health & Safety Officer, as well as Professors Benjamin, Hansen, D'Alessio, and Hagopian for their leadership and suggested programs for the organization. EAG will be holding elections in April, and would like as many new students as possible to join the organization to increase diversity.

Noonan seems very excited for where EAG is headed this spring semester. He encourages any interested students to get involved.

Staff Writer

"I analyze myself way too much," admits Psychology major Jonida Theodhoraqi. As president of the Psych Club at WSC, Theodhoraqi's mission is to raise awareness about the club and the Psychology department so as to recruit those students interested in the mind boggling world of the psychology..

"There are a lot of reasons to join Psych Club," states Theodhoraqi "but I think the top three would have to be (1) it's a great resume builder and shows you have the ability to socially interact with people, (2) you meet other students with similar interests." She continues enthusiastically "and lastly, psychology can be related to anything in life, it's about a passion for helping people find their way."

For about five years the Psych Club has been busy setting up fundraisers, attending conferences, and most importantly, using their knowledge about psychology by getting involved in the Worcester community. "I work at the MYR, (Motivating Youth Recovery)" says Theodhoraqi, "we try to teach teens different approaches to coping with their problems that don't involve substance abuse."

As part of their mission to raise awareness, the Psych Club will also be taking part in a career fair as part of the third annual Psych Day, which will be held on April 17th. The fair advertises careers, internships, and volunteer work for those with and without psychology majors/degrees. The club will also be co-sponsoring a resume building workshop on March 13th, alongside Career Services, and all are welcome to attend.

Despite the fact that the club is made up of only eleven members, they have achieved great success with community service events, such as the Baby's Breath Toy Drive. These Freud-fanatics don't just sit around a table and discuss theories of the unconscious; they also act upon and participate in regional conferences such as the Northeast Psychological Association Conference last October, and the Eastern Psychological Association Conference, which they will be attending on March 14th.

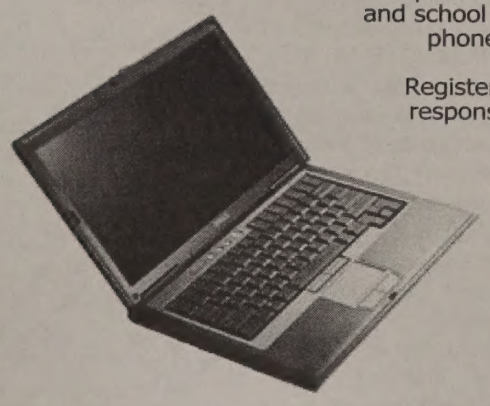
So, what exactly can you do with a degree in psychology, besides the obvious? What will psychology do for me in the future? Theodhoraqi's optimistic final answer in a long line of interrogating questions was simply, "You can be anything you want to be, you just need to know where to look."

Enter to Win a Dell Laptop

Students - WSC now has an emergency response system to notify you of emergencies and school closings. You can be notified via cell phone, text message, Email and/or pager.

Register your contact info in the emergency response system and you will be entered in a drawing for a **Dell D360 laptop**.

The drawing for the laptop will take place on Wednesday, March 26. Winner will be notified by WSC Email.



Go to https://community.worcester.edu
Log-in with your WSC user name and password
Click on link to Emergency Response System

WORCESTER
State College

Une Excursion de Paris, le Loire, et la Riviera

Joanna Good
Staff Writer

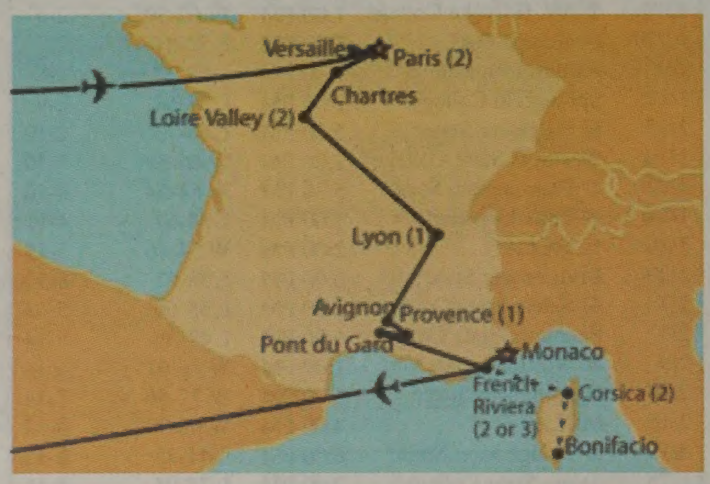
There is an exciting opportunity to travel to Paris, the Loire, and the Riviera on a faculty-led short term study abroad. It is open to all WSC students, alumni, faculty, administrators, and you can even bring friends outside of the WSC community. This is a ten day tour from Sunday, May 17 to Monday, May 26, 2009, where you will get to learn and appreciate the remarkable history and culture of France. Dr. Judith Jeon-Chapman, a Languages Literature professor at WSC, is the leading faculty member on this trip.

She reveals, "My favorite part of the last trip was the Chartres Cathedral. My mom visited it in WWII and it impressed me."On the fourth day the tour visits this cathedral, which is considered Europe's largest cathedral and its stained-glass windows truly striking. You will also visit the Notre Dame, the Eiffel Tower, the Château de Chenonceau, and other impressive sites.

The price for this tour is as follows:
Program Fee: $1,650
Departure Fee: $404
Lifetime Membership Fee: $95
Weekend Supplement: $35
Subtotal for Students less than 23 years old: $2,184
Adult Supplement for participants 23 yrs. old or older: $315
Subtotal for Adults 23 years or older: $2,499
Total Price with Autopay:
Students under 23 years old: $156/month (total: $2,184)
Adults 23 yrs. or older: $179/month (total: $2,499)
Optional excursion to Versailles: add $65
Medical evacuation insurance is required by WSC: EF Tour's All Inclusive Insurance Plan (add $115) or MEDEX (add $40)
Final Payment Deadline: Saturday, February 7, 2009

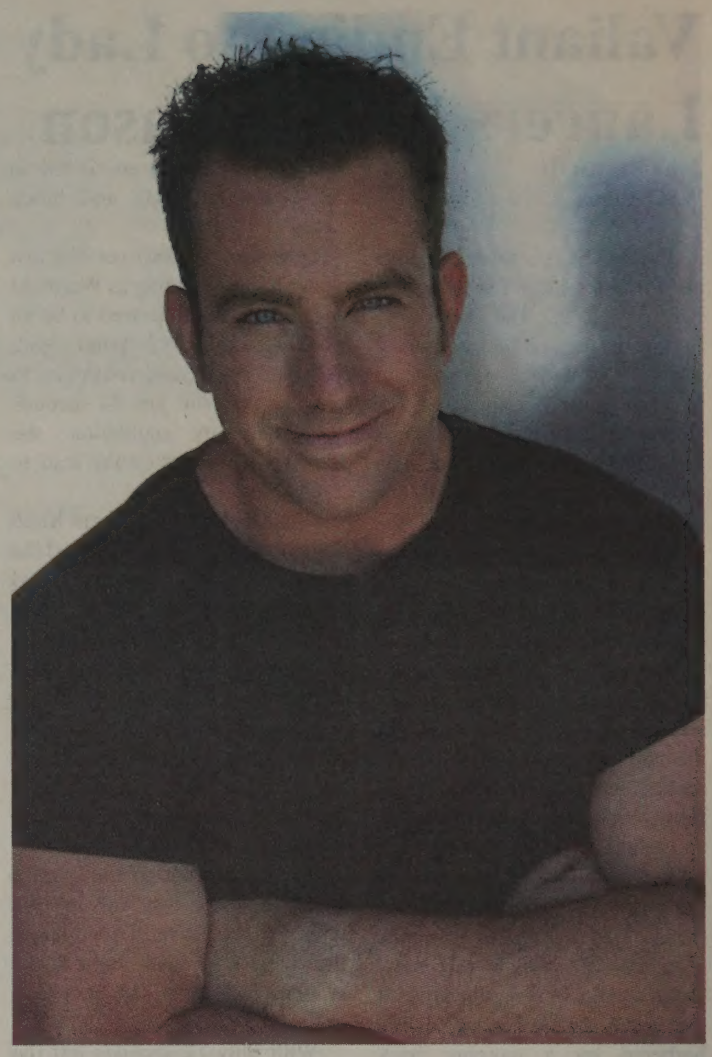
After October 2008, EF Tours are going to renegotiate and the price may go up. This may seem like a lot of money, but this includes many necessary and entertaining aspects of the trip. For instance, it includes the round-trip airfare from Logan Airport, eight overnight stays in hotels with private bathrooms, all travel within France, and much more! All potential participants are advised to get their passport right away, better safe than sorry.

It would be beneficial, although not required, for you to learn the language and take the French Film and Literature course available in the spring semester of 2009. This course will provide you with a better understanding of the French history and culture. For more information, contact EF Tours (www.eftours.com or call 457358-G1) or Jeon-Chapman (S-304E, jjeonchapman@worcester.edu, or call 508-929-8794).



Chartres Cathedral

Château de Chenonceau



Lissow Lights Up the Stage

Chrissy Kenney
Staff Writer

Comedian Jamie Lissow graced Worcester State Students with his presence this past Wednesday for the monthly Student Events Committee sponsored comedy show. Starting off his energetic set with cracks at Pilgrims and Mathematics, Lissow branched off to discuss college life and WSC's dry campus. His unusual manner kept students giggling as his jokes went from one extreme to another. Somehow, Lissow managed to transition a story about the gym to bathroom humor, and he made the audience laugh in the process.

According to the jokester, his set works best on college students because we are "intelligent," unlike a past experience he had in Alabama where he claims the audience was unaware of "what college was." Jamie kept it real for listeners by touching upon known topics such as speeding, infomercials, and the sport of wrestling while reliving his days as a spandex-wearing teammate.

Perhaps his funniest material was derived from his knowledge of Worcester State and the city itself. Lissow couldn't enter a college campus without commenting on the ridiculous prices of books, as he reminisced on his own book-buying experiences. Although he got a laugh from his comments on the excessive amount of liquor and dollar stores around the area, Lissow possibly got his biggest reaction from his reference to Worcester's infamous Kelley Square, teasing that no one really knew what to do when inside the hectic intersection.

Jamie did a type of trivia give-away with his comedy CD's, awarding the winners of two questions that he asked the audience. His first inquiry questioned which car on campus was the worst. As student's raised their hands to answer, each car story seemed to get more horrific than the last. We heard about one that needed to be going 80 miles per hour in order for the heat to work properly and another that sounded like an airplane every time the driver grazed the gas pedal.

The nearly unanimous winner of the challenge, however, sent the audience in an uproar as he told us about all of the different parts of his car that were home-made, such as Styrofoam insulation and a metal pole that is welded to the back of his car to act as a bumper.

Finally, Lissow asked about different pick-up lines, and although this question did not get the same avid response as the former, he did decide upon a rather vulgar, yet funny response.

Lissow has been on comedy central and The Tonight Show, and he currently resides in New York City with his wife. Jamie Lissow's sense of humor was impossibly easy to relate to when he visited Worcester State's campus, and judging from the audience's energy as he left the stage, it could be said that he left a great impression.

Commuter Reception

You are invited to meet President Ashley and other commuter Students. Come and participate in an open discussion regarding commuter issues, and learn about upcoming commuter events.

Light refreshments will be served

Date: Thursday, April 10, 2008

Time: 1:30pm-2:30pm

Fallon Room, Student Center 3rd Floor

RSVP by Wednesday, April 2

E-mail: sforti@worcester.edu
jtoolin@worcester.edu
Phone: 508-929-8675

Sponsored by
Commuter Services &
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Looking for Good Bands?

theundergroundscene.net provides everything you need to find those great bands that are flying just below the radar. Get reviews of the latest releases, interviews, shows in your area, and much more. Also earn "scene points" by participating in the community. Sign up for your free account at **www.theundergroundscene.net**

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Hooray!!! Thomas W. Marino III is Dead!!!
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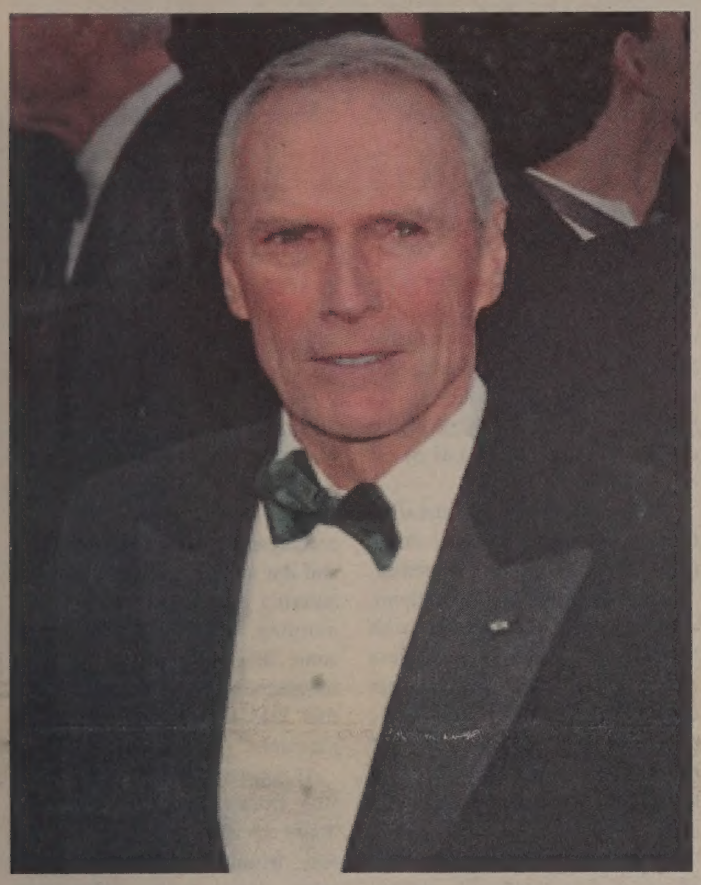
The Student Vice

The Unofficial Paper of Worcester State College
Tuesday, April 1, 2008

Volume 4, Number 1

508-929-8589

Worcester State Campus Picked As Home For New Clint Eastwood Movie



Matthew Brown
Staff Writer

In an unbelievable chance of events, Hollywood A-List star Clint Eastwood met with board members of Worcester State College to discuss a new film opportunity. Eastwood plans to be an undercover professor who secretly works for the United States government. His mission? To exploit the underground professor ring that has been rumored to abduct students and perform illegal experimental learning strategies. And yes, these strategies are forms of torture. There will be blood.

Eastwood plans on donning his trademark cowboy hat, along with his pair of six-shooters. Whether the movie will be entered into the *Dirty Harry* collection is yet to be agreed upon.

The reason for choosing WSC for the site of the film is due in great part to Eastwood's niece being a currently enrolled student at the college. Wanting to remain anonymous, she allows only the information she makes public is of her being a student living on campus and being enrolled as a sociology major.

"I've had a class with her last year. She was really nice but wouldn't stop talking about her uncle. I've never heard of him. Did you say he does movies?" says WSC student Ryan Durkee.

Rumors are abound that the way in which the school plans on paying for its bid to be featured in the film is through on campus mandatory funding. This explains why the price for on campus parking has remained as high as it is and did not drop with the building of a parking garage to accommodate more cars.

A petition signing will be held in Dowden Hall on Tuesday, April 1. This signing will be a petition to have the movie filmed on WSC's campus. Come join and possibly meet star Clint Eastwood.

Unidentified Flying Object Seen Hovering Around Worcester State College Campus

Joanna Good
Staff Writer

There have been recent mentions of UFO sightings at Worcester State College. Students, who wish to stay anonymous, have reported seeing spaceships during different times at night. At first many suspected these students of being drunk or on drugs. Whether these allegations are true or not, one student in particular claims to have proof; someone had a camera phone and was able to take a clear picture of the UFO. After this discovery, more and more students (and even some faculty) have come forward with stories of alien sightings. It is hard to deny the numbers of people who have claimed to see this spaceship. It is likely that this is just a wacky prank, however many students feel that there is truth to this story.

Professors have reported the absence of several of their students and no one is able to locate them at this time. Many are starting to suggest they have been abducted by aliens. A more reasonable response might be that these students have left because they are afraid. However, the number of students disappearing grows daily and doesn't seem to be stopping. It seems that only the students who live on campus are the ones vanishing. Commuters are starting to withdraw and transfer to other colleges. The population of WSC is rapidly declining and the faculty has yet to come up with any solutions. An investigation is taking place to find the missing students and a UFO or two.

I would advise all students to panic and flee from the school. If you do stay it is suggested that you don't leave the safety of your dorms during the night. Remember to always travel by yourself, it's better to lose one student than two. If any of the missing students have returned to Earth they will be thoroughly questioned. No one is able to come up with plausible reasons for the alien invasion or the abductions. Have we unknowingly offended the aliens and how so? If anyone has kidnapped an alien, we ask you to return them immediately or you will be expelled. Should we fight back or just ignore it? There is no way that we could defeat them, in case you have forgotten they are intellectually advanced. There must have been a good reason for the aliens to take the students. Perhaps they wish to learn from us. The missing students are not important enough to jeopardize the safety of the rest of the world.

If you are abducted, please explain that we do not wish to harm the aliens and that no one will try to rescue you. It is possible that you might enjoy being kidnapped. You will be able to learn and experience new things (or die, it's fifty-fifty). Those who live on campus are being offered a reward for any pictures or information. Even if you report false information its better than the information we have. WSC has cut the price of dorms in half and hopes you enjoy the rest of the semester.

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THE VICE

Worcester State College's Student Newspaper

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The Student Vice of Worcester State College

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The Student Voice welcomes letters, essays, and articles provided they are typed and are submitted with a name and means to contact the author. Any pieces that are deemed questionable are brought before the executive board. In the event of a tie the Editor-in-Chief has final decision. Letters run at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief and are subject to editing for style and length. The Editor reserves the right to republish any works at their discretion.

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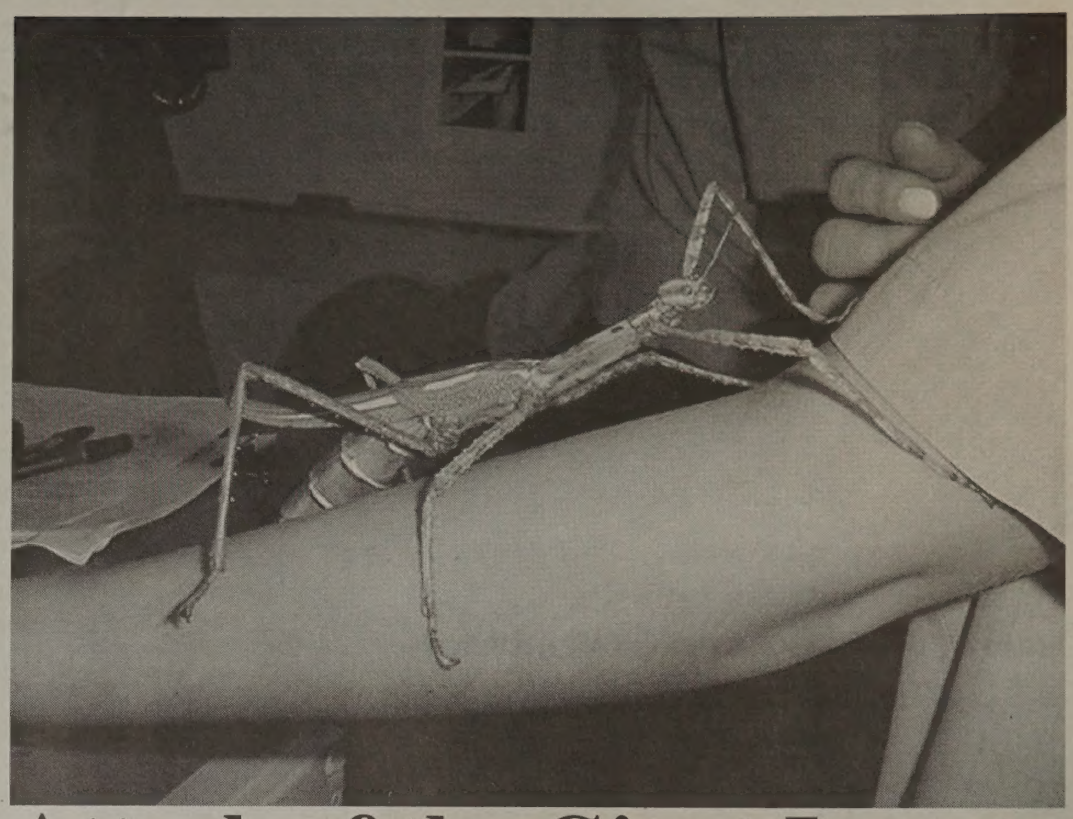


Attack of the Giant Insects

Jacqueline Morrill
Staff Writer

On Monday, March 17th, also the first day of Spring Break for WSC, a member of the janitorial staff was brutally attacked by a swarm of flesh eating insects in the Sullivan Building. The middle aged man thankfully escaped from the building alive, but will forever be haunted by images of the big bad bugs that managed to chew off his right arm. "I was scrubbing the floors of Sullivan Common when I began to hear a low humming followed by a sticky chewing sound by the bathrooms."

The janitor, Ed Spenser, continued to state that upon entering the main hallway he noticed bits of dirt and tiny spackles of blood leading into the stairway. He also remembers a strange, rotting stench oozing out from under the stair doors, "It smelled like decaying meat. I opened the door and had to hold my hands to my mouth and nose to keep from vomiting. There was a cat lying on the first stoop, it was covered in giant maggots and ant-like bugs." Spenser describes the scene as if it were something out of a B horror flick. The six legged creatures were sticky and laying eggs in the open orifices of the almost-dead feline. He mentioned that there were far more than just two or three insects, hundreds of these creepy-crawlies were lined up on the stairs and upon seeing Spenser, realized that he was a far tastier treat than the pieces of cat they had just consumed.

"Once they saw me standing there, in shock, they piled down the stairs," continues Spenser. "Some had prickly hairs on them, some looked like beetles with hard shells, some were leg-less and others resembled ticks except they were ten times bigger!" The beastly pests chased Spenser down the hall and before reaching the doors, latched onto his right arm. Once attached to his skin, the bugs gnawed off pieces of his arm until they eventually reached muscle and bone. About two hours later, Spenser was found hysterical and bleeding in the Sullivan parking lot by a parking enforcement officer who wished to not be names. The officer recalls the gory details, "His entire arm from the elbow down was missing and bits of skin were hanging in flaps. There was so much blood. He just kept repeating, 'they took my arm! They took my arm!"

After Spenser was rushed to Memorial Hospital, Sullivan was shut down and invaded by twenty-two members of the pest control squad "Bug Busters." The team entered Sullivan on Tuesday prepared to fight the oversized creepers with gas bombs, fire guns and oxygen tanks filled with Raid. Chief of the Bug Buster squad, Monty Mantel recalls a certain amount of fear that himself and the rest of his team felt upon entering the insect inferno that morning, "We've dealt with some disgusting insects, wasps, maggots, angry caterpillars, but this was different. These were monsters!"

At approximately 1:30 p.m. the Bug Busters crew reopened the doors of the Sullivan building and triumphantly exited with large duffel bags slung over their shoulders, undoubtedly filled with the dead bodies of these gargantuan insects. Though the Sullivan building has been declared safe, Mantel and the rest of the Bug Busters recommend to all students of WSC to call this toll free number in the case of another giant bug infestation: 555-344-BUST.

Mutant Baby Born at Worcester State

Matthew Brown
Staff Writer

Reports from eye witnesses cite the recent birth given to a beautiful baby boy born behind the dumpster at Dowden Hall. Students noticed the woman while they were attempting to throw away trash from their dorm rooms.

"I think she was homeless. She looked a little too old to be around the dorms. And she had weird boils on her face..." explained resident student Matt Sullivan.

After calling his friends to come witness what he saw, Sullivan says that what happened next was the most disturbing thing of all.

"Not only did the baby fall head first onto the ground, but it turned green all over. Then, it got up and started to bite the woman in the leg. That thing was some sort of monster baby!" exclaimed Sullivan.

Rumors are that the woman, after fleeing the scene, left her new born child in a trash can located somewhere near the dorm buildings. The child, possibly surviving off of scraps from its new home, has reportedly been seen amongst the trees behind Dowden Hall.

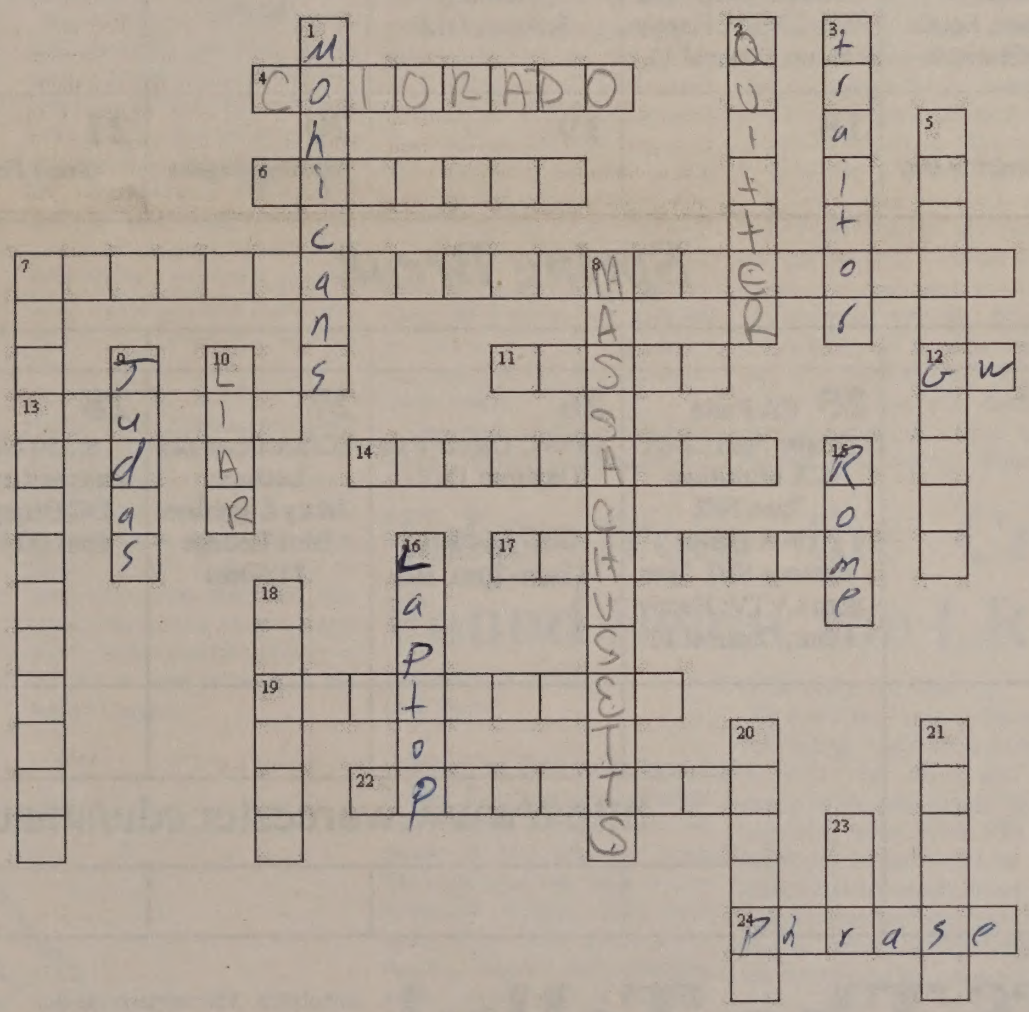
Looking for Good Bands?

theundergroundscene.net provides everything you need to find those great bands that are flying just below the radar. Get reviews of the latest releases, interviews, shows in your area, and much more. Also earn "scene points" by participating in the community. Sign up for your free account at **www.theundergroundscene.net**

April Fools!!!

From Worcester Student Voice

Vice Word



ACROSS

4 The least productive place in America
6 Fast becoming a myth in America
7 C.A.F.E.
11 First word of controversial editorial of Colorado State U. newspaper
12 First president of the United States
13 TSV's editor in chief
14 Expression of discontent
17 An extreme form of skepticism
19 To yield to the possession or power of another
22 Means specially favorable to success
24 What you are trying to find right now

DOWN

1 Last of the ...
2 One who gives up easily
3 A person who betrays a cause
5 Pertaining to or noting a temperature scale
7 Full activity of the mind and senses
8 Site of the first battles of the Revolutionary War in 1775
9 The disciple who betrayed Jesus
10 Perjurer
15 Home of the Vatican
16 Not-PC
18 4 pecks
20 The refusal to satisfy a claim, request, desire
21 To load oppressively
23 Oppressor, acronym for

March Student Activities Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Abbreviations *BL: Blue Lounge* *OLP: One Lancer Place* *SC: Student Center* *SHL: Seven Hills Lounge* *CMH: Campus Ministry House* *ST: Science & Tech* *N/S: North/South Auditorium* *DHL: Dowden Hall Lounge* *EA: Exhibit Area* *TWA: Third World Alliance* *SEC: Student Events Committee* *LVTV: LancerVision TV* *SGA: Student Government Association* *CA: Campus Ambassadors* *SC/SA: Stu. Ctr/Stu. Activities Office*						**1** CA & TWA: Revolution Blue Lounge 6pm-12am
2 Catholic Mass 6pm, DHL	**3**	**4** CA Pasta Dinner 5pm CMH CA Multitude 7pm, N/S TWA Dance Lessons SHL 7pm 8pm LVTV: Happy Hour, Channel 11	**5** SEC Comedian: N/S, 8:30pm	**6** SGA Silent Auction, EA 11am-2pm Live Auction, 5:30pm, BL	**7** SC/SA & SEC: Bouncy Boxing & Ice Cream Bar, EA 7-10pm	**8**
9 SC/SA: Jewelry Making, OLP, 2pm Catholic Mass 6pm, DHL	**10** Career Services: Kraft Foods Info Session (lunch provided by Kraft) 12noon, South Auditorium	**11** CA Pasta Dinner 5pm CMH CA Multitude 7pm, N/S TWA Dance Lessons SHL 7pm 8pm LVTV: Happy Hour, Channel 11	**12** Sr. Trip: Celtics Bus leaves 3:45pm SEC Hump Day Harmony 8:30pm, OLP	**13** Career Services: *"How to Work a Career Fair"* 12:30pm North Aud. (bring your lunch)	**14**	**15**
16 	**17** ***St. Patrick's Day***	**18**	**19**	**20** ***Spring Begins***	**21** ***Good Friday***	**22**
23 ***Easter Sunday***	**24**	**25** CA Pasta Dinner 5pm CMH CA Multitude 7pm, N/S TWA Dance Lessons SHL 7pm 8pm LVTV: Happy Hour, Channel 11	**26** COWC Career Fair Daytime, DCU SEC Lecture, 11am-2pm, BL	**27** SC/SA Diversity Lecture: Mary Lightfine Blue Lounge 11:30am	**28** Sr. 50 Nights Party w/comedian DC Benny, BL 6pm (21+ yrs.)	**29** SC/SA Karaoke, OLP 7pm
30	**31**					

Spring Break

http://www.worcester.edu/stuact/

Turn off The Telly!

Chrissy Kenney
Staff Writer

Worcester State students may have recently noticed the hurried, outrageous lines in the bookstore and lower Chartwells cafeteria this week, and perhaps students have wondered what has caused this sudden fluctuation of sales at WSC. After much detective work and variable testing, The Student Voice has discovered just what exactly is causing this strange phenomenon, and we encourage all students to shut off their television sets for the time being.

As strange as it seems, it appears as though LVTV, channel eleven for campus residents, has been taken over by a corporate spy; subliminal messaging advertising products such as Calculus books and chicken ceasar salad wraps have been looping through all of LVTV's regular programming.

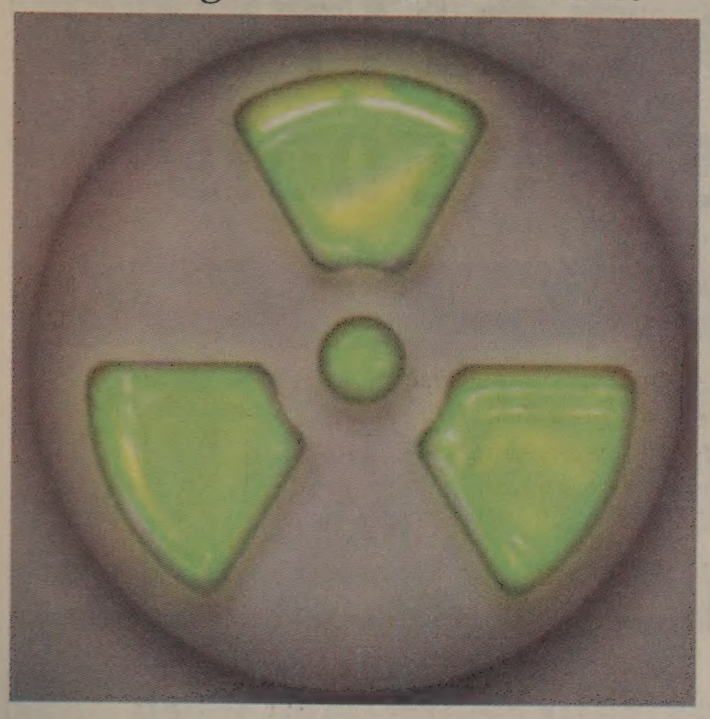
Members of the organization are very distraught and even more-so confused. "I just don't understand who would do this, or why?" stresses freshman member, Michael Dobbs.

School sales have increased by a whopping 35% since the beginning of the month, solely due to Chartwells and the bookstore, an impressive financial boost, the likes of which Worcester State has never seen before. The lines in the lower cafeteria are shockingly extensive, and many students have become violent towards one another. A fight broke out yesterday afternoon between two unidentified male students over who saw the last Rice Crispie treat first; several bones were broking, and both students were removed from the campus by ambulance. The cafeteria has run out of receipts, and barely has enough staff or food in storage to keep students happy.

Bookstore employees are getting a work-out in this middle of the semester, where students are purchasing books for classes they aren't even enrolled in. One student was asked why she purchased an Accounting book, when in reality, her major was Nursing. She replied, "I don't know. One minute I was watching Knocked Up, and the next thing I knew, I just felt like I really wanted to learn about Accounting." This particular student walked away with a very perplexed look on her face, clearly confused with her disability to shake off the subliminal messaging.

While the culprit to this unbelievable crime is still unknown to WSC Administration, the search is on. Until The Student Voice receives more information, we ask that all students avoid channel 11, for their own wallets, and even their own safety.

Resident Director Gains Super Powers After Being Thrown into Lake Ellie



Jeff Moffett
Staff Writer

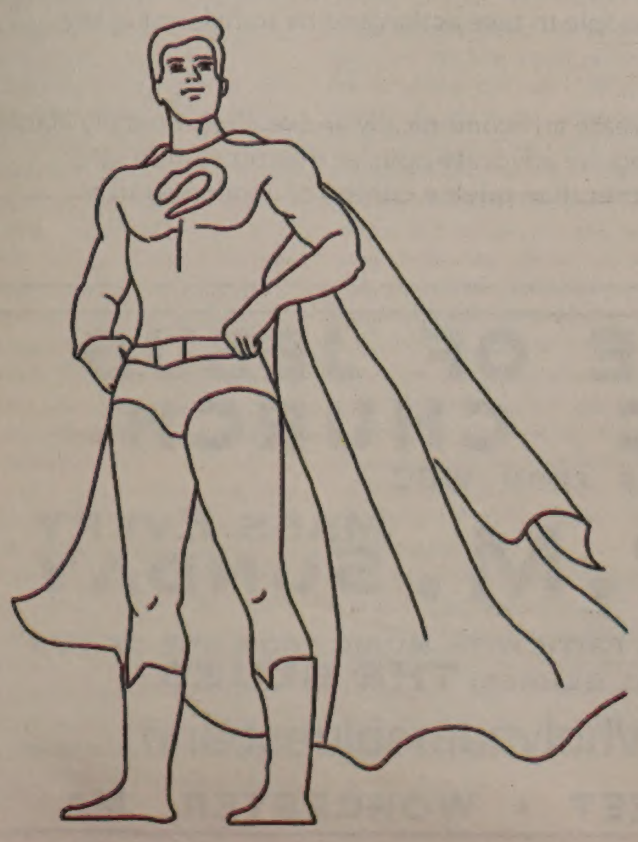
Worcester State College Resident Director Sean Seery has apparently received super powers after being thrown into Lake Ellie by drunken party goes after a residential write up went out of control. Seery was contacted by the Resident Assistants on duty Thursday night about a large party occurring on campus. Upon arriving at the party, a large amount of alcohol was found in the apartment. The RA's and Seery asked for the ID's of all the party goers. This is where things took a turn for the worse.

Three large male students, when asked for their ID's, picked up Sean Seery and carried him down to lower campus. They then tossed him into Lake Ellie and waited for him to emerge from the blackened abyss. After four minutes of waiting, as the group was beginning to become worried about the fate of the RD, Seery arose from his watery grave. The group of students, frightened by the floating Sean Seery in front of them, attempted to flee the seen. They report an unknown force preventing them from moving as the RA's finally showed up with campus police to arrest the students.

Seery was unable to return to the ground for more than half an hour. He stated that he was unable to control his abilities at the time. Various objects around the area also unexplainably rose into the air and fell without warning. Seery was able to begin to control his powers shortly after. Soon, Seery was flying around campus, disrupting campus parties at record pace.

It is unknown what exactly gave Sean Seery his new found super powers. Investigation on the lake, however, yielded about average levels of toxin and radiation. This information could easily explain the transformation. While other students have attempted to also gain power by jumping into Lake Ellie, all have been unsuccessful. Two students have actually got cancer after jumping into the lake.

Seery has gained multiple powers upon arising from Lake Ellie. Most notable are the power of light (that's levitation holmes), the power to kill a yak from two hundred yards away with mind bullets, as well as the power to move you. Sean Seery has also legally changed his name to Super Seery and has quit his position on campus to fight crime with the Justice League.



WSC Students after hearing the news of Marino's death

The Suicide of Thomas Marino: Campus Martyr or Mutineer?

Jacqueline Morrill
Staff Writer

I am saddened to report from the Student Voice, that Editor in Chief, Thomas Marino was found flattened on the pavement in front of the Sullivan building yesterday morning at approximately 6:45 a.m. by an early jogger. "As I approached the administration trailers I noticed a body lying face down on the pavement," said jogger Patty Plimpton. "I poked the body with a stick but it didn't move. There was no breathing from what I could see, but a piece of crumpled paper was clasped between its fingers." That note was later identified as a suicide note written exclusively to the WSC president Janelle Ashley and Police Chief Naughton. Though we are not permitted to print the exact words of the suicide note, the contents are rumored to involve one last petition to ban fire-arms from the Worcester State campus.

The body of Thomas Marino was not the only shocking sight at Sullivan, a fifty foot banner was also strung across the front of the building with the message, "Rise against fire-arms! Let democracy rule!" written in red paint. Few students beg the question: was Mr. Marino's death an accident? Did he lose his footing while hanging the banner, or did he intentionally leap off the building in a fit of hopeless rage?

While these questions have yet to be answered, the reactions of the students vary among the pro-gun and anti-gun alliances of the recent Worcester State debacle. Sophomore Malory Mayers shows no compassion for the death of our former editor in chief. She remorselessly stated, "The world is short one jerk, big deal. The guy didn't even live here, what exactly did he do to contribute to the paper besides complain about democracy and gun control?" In agreement with Ms. Mayers, the majority of Student Senate and SGA have actually planned a party praising the death of the late editorial writer. Only seconds after hearing about the death of Marino, Student Trustee, Brandon Huggon looked to the sky, and in the fashion of Wizard of Oz, shouts, "Ding dong the evil editor is *finally* dead!" Rumors as to why Huggon was so ecstatic upon hearing that Marino was dead are not clear, however, one source reports that Huggon and Marino had engaged in a heated argument in the Writing Center only weeks before. The touchy subjects of discussion ranged from the obvious fire-arm campaign to future plans of the campus gymnasium and potential addition of another parking garage.

The consensus so far has been that the tragic death of this 28 year old student was more beneficial rather than a hindrance to the college. Freshman Zachary Zimmers compares the death of Marino to the death of a rebel anarchist, "You think he was just expressing his opinions in those demented editorials? No, he was trying to form an army of radical college students."

Tales from the Crypt: Bodies Found Below the LRC

Jacqueline Morrill
Staff Writer

In the year 1702 an outbreak of Yellow Fever spread throughout New England and killed over 500 people in Massachusetts alone. Those infected were said to have symptoms ranging from back pain, itchy rash, hematemesis (black vomit), hemorrhaging, and a severe case of jaundice. Three hundred and six years later, on March 19th, a crew of New England archeological historians found an underground crypt filled with the corpses of those victims who died of this deadly virus. The crypt, located under the Learning Resource Center of WSC looks similar to the tunnels and holding rooms of the Roman catacombs. Separate burial chambers are sectored off from the main hallways and filled not only with bodies, but material possessions such as brushes, clothing, and children's toys. The walls of the main passageways are lined with both skeletons and embalmed bodies, and form a labyrinth of twists and turns in which anyone could easily lose their way.

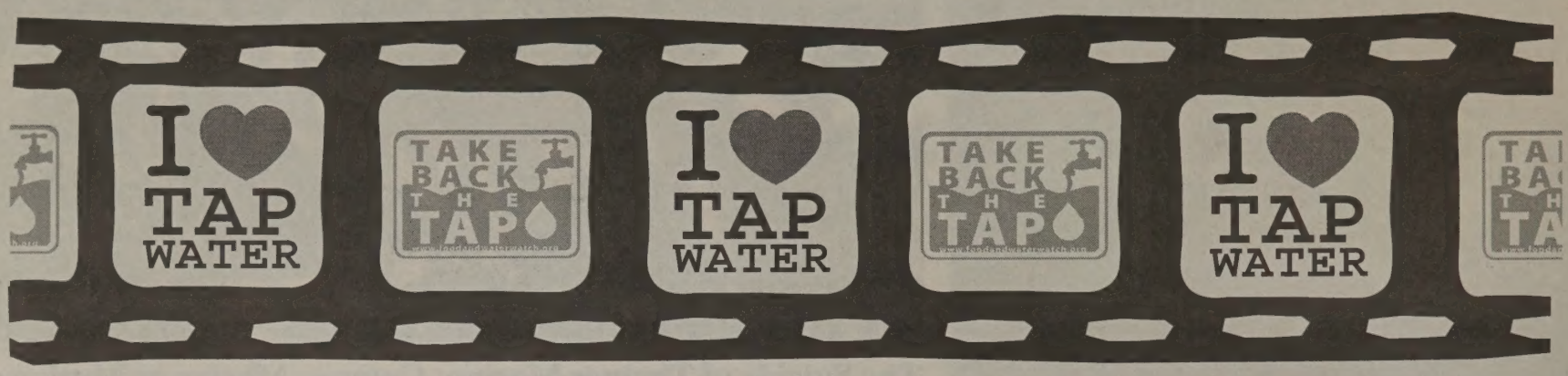
Dr. Boris Brown of the Worcester Archeology Association recounts his first visit down into the depths of the LRC crypt, "It was hopelessly black. Even with our flashlights we had to feel our way around and the stench, the air was so thick with the stench of death that we could hardly breathe." Dr. Brown and his archeological crew estimate the crypt to hold anywhere from 350 to 700 bodies, "The Yellow Fever epidemic of 1702 was huge, but it was pure luck to have found an underground burial chamber in Worcester, especially under the Learning Resource Center of the college."

Dr. Brown was first notified of the tomb about two months ago when a member of janitorial staff was cleaning in the basement of the LRC and noticed a latched piece of steel on the floor in the boiler room. Because the latch was rusted shut, the piece of metal had to be pried up from the ground by three members of the highway department and crow-bars.

So far, twelve bodies have been taken up from the tomb and analyzed by Dr. Brown and his team. The remains of each body tell a different story: some are small, obviously the bones of a child, while others still are bigger like that of a full grown adult. "Slowly, we can piece together whole lives of those Yellow Fever victims," said Dr. Brown, "we can tell the person's sex, age, and even their past injuries."

The Worcester Archeology Association will be using the basement of the LRC as a testing site for the remainder of March as well as April and May, therefore it will be closed until the fall semester. In regards to book withdrawals, the library website will be making a sign up page for any student who would like to receive research materials via the postal service. Students may sign up at www.worcester.edu/library.researchstuff.

STUDENT VIDEO CONTEST
WINNER GETS $1,500!!



Take Back the Tap Student Video Contest, Sponsored by Food & Water Watch

This Valentines Day, Food & Water Watch challenges college students from around the US to declare their love for tap water - and get it on film.

THE CHALLENGE
To produce a **1 to 2 minute video** that includes the following three elements:

1. A declaration of your love for tap water
2. Some discussion about bottled water consumption
3. Make the case for why your school or any campus should give up bottled water

THE PRIZE
Our first place winner will receive a **$1,500 award**, and his or her video will be featured prominently on the Take Back the Tap website. The second place runner-up will receive a $500 prize, and the third place winner will receive a Take Back the Tap gift bag.

THE DATES
The contest begins on **February 14th**, 2008 and submissions will be accepted until **April 14th**, 2008.

HOW TO ENTER
Visit **www.takebackthetap.org** for details

food&waterwatch

About Food & Water Watch
www.foodandwaterwatch.org

Food & Water Watch is a nonprofit consumer organization that works to ensure clean water and safe food. We challenge the corporate control and abuse of our food and water resources by empowering people to take action and by transforming the public consciousness about what we eat and drink.

Food & Water Watch works with grassroots organizations around the world to create an economically and environmentally viable future. Through research, public and policymaker education, media, and lobbying, we advocate policies that guarantee safe, wholesome food produced in a humane and sustainable manner and public, rather than private, control of water resources including oceans, rivers, and groundwater.

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Only a "Doomsday" Away

M. R. Brown
Staff Writer

July 10, 1981 is a day in film history that writer/director Neil Marshall must ultimately hold dear. A one-eyed rabble-rouser criminal named Snake Plissken was sent to the quarantined city of New York where he was met with a civilization bereft of morals and logic that lived on their base instincts of survival. The film is John Carpenter's *Escape from New York*.

Fast-forward to March 14, 2008. Neil Marshall (*The Descent*) unleashes his film of a one-eyed independent woman named Eden Sinclair (Rhona Mitra) who is sent to the quarantined city of Glasgow where she is met by a civilization bereft of morals and logic that lives on their base instincts of survival. Sounds as though *Doomsday* is more than just inspired by Carpenter's work, dare it is called a remake.

The deadly Reaper virus outbreak forces the country of England to barricade off a section of cities to quarantine the problem. But years later, when the virus resurfaces in London, a Special Forces outfit is sent into the quarantined area. Searching for recently discovered survivors, the squad plots to procure an antidote to the virus. Battling through a left behind society that is built on chaos and disorder, nightmares of the future are brought to life.

The quarantined survivors looked as though they are pulled straight out of *Mad Max*. Mohawks, face paint, leather and spikes are abound. There is even a reincarnated Thunderdome envisioned as a pseudo-rock concert meets town fair. No matter how bleak the future looks, we can always hope for rock music and scantily clad women to dance to it.

The ringleader, Sol, gives the most memorable performance. Hair styled in a mohawk and outfit ripped from the closet of Johnny Rotten, Sol is an enigmatic hooligan with enough aggro to suppress a British football crowd.

The film turns historical when the crew is led to the medieval sanctuary outpost in a tourist attraction castle, complete with signs for the Gift Shop. The leather and chains are traded for cotton replicas of Medieval attire. The overlord of the society, Kane (Malcolm McDowell), holds the final key to the puzzle, along with plenty of plot twists.

The power of *Doomsday* is in the action, suspense and intense violence. To see a man be skewered over a fire only to be hacked apart and eaten by the savage virus survivors is one of the most unsettling scenes captured on film in years. The amount of blood and gore makes one wonder just how the film could pull-off the R rating and not NC-17. Lovers of cute animals may tend to shy away at scenes of animal slaughter. Others will find this to only add to the entertainment.

Marshall's movie will not win any awards, and judging by its poor box-office performance, it will most likely be forgotten by the general public for good six months after its DVD release. But the true movie fan, the one who basks in the entertaining nature of movies and the homage's to cult films of yore, will make this a mainstay in DVD player's for years to come.

Glorious in its achievements in visual pleasure, *Doomsday* is entertaining as hell and a wild-ride that is only hurt by the rolling of its credits. I wanted this movie to never end. You owe it to yourself to see *Doomsday*.

Horton Hears Big Box Office Applause

Matthew Brown
Staff Writer

"A person is a person, no matter how small." The message is simple, just as Dr. Seuss had planned. Critic elitists believe this message was lost in the feature length film, but such interpretation could not be farther from the truth.

An all-star cast headlines the third film adaptation of Dr. Seuss' work in *Horton Hears a Who!* A kind natured elephant named Horton (Jim Carey) wanders through the jungle when he spots a floating speck that he hears cry for help. The cries come from the microscopic town of Whoville, where the Mayor (Steve Carrell) converses with Horton through a pipe. Horton embarks on a quest to place the speck in a safe cavern atop a distant mountain. On his adventures he is constantly harassed by a nosy Kangaroo (Carol Burnett), henchmen apes, and a hired vulture named Vlad (Will Arnett).

The movie achieves what the previous adaptations fail to achieve, entertainment. Sure, the film feels stretched at times and moves slow through certain spots, but the heart and message of the children's book, as well as the humor, are retained.

A sedative Carey does not provide much of the comedy, but rather goes for the heart. After a dismal performance as the Grinch, his second attempt at a Dr. Seuss character is much more successful. Strong comedic personalities such as Carey and Mike Myers tend to hijack the characters they play and give their own style of performance instead. These are key reasons to why the previous films failed and why this film succeeds.

Carrell's character of the Mayor leads the comedic charge. An odd note, in nearly any movie Carrell is in he seems as though he is contractually obliged to scream loudly at least three times. This time is no different. Luckily, the comedy only seems to build with the flow of the movie rather than drop-off like most other similar family films.

Beautiful in its art, the colors and setting of the story, both in the jungle and Whoville, are astounding. Sweeping landscapes and vibrant nuances are treats to the eyes and set a standard for all computer animated movies to come.

Horton Hears a Who! hits all the family film bases. Cute and memorable characters, a moral message story and fun lively action are at the forefront. Fun for the whole family and a great way to reminisce of a childhood tale, this movie is a great reason to get out of the house and bring along friends and family for a laugh and a smile.

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COLLEGES OF WORCESTER CONSORTIUM

College Students:

Comedian Stephen Lynch

www.stephenlynch.com

Saturday, April 12
Doors open 7:30 pm
Show starts 8:00 pm
The Hanover Theatre
554 Main Street, Worcester

Ticket Info:
$20 for Consortium students
$31.50 for general public

Tickets may be available at the Student Activities Office on your campus!

Or call the Hanover Theatre Box Office, at 877-571-SHOW. Must show a student ID or WOO card when picking up student tickets. Discounted tickets cannot be purchased online.

Make a night of it! Restaurant discounts will be available by showing your ticket before and after the show at: Boston Billiard Club (buy 1 get 1 apps), Caffe Dolce (free nonalcoholic beverage w/any dessert), Flying Rhino (15% off food), McFadden's Restaurant (1/2 off appetizers & any menu burger for $6) and Mezcal (free nachos).

Woo Bus — Your Ride to Worcester.

Free transportation is available from WSC on the Woo Bus. Get off at Main Street stop.

www.cowc.org

Worcester Cultural Coalition
www.worcestermass.org/culture

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The Student Voice

The Official Paper of Worcester State College
Wednesday, April 9, 2008

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Volunteer in Nicaragua Over Break

Kristin Gajda
Contributor

Over winter break, I had the opportunity to travel abroad with occupational therapy professor Jacqueline Brennan, her colleague, physical therapist, Michelle Tolland, and three other occupational therapy students. On January 9th, we boarded a flight bound for Managua, Nicaragua. Seven hours later we landed in a third world country for an experience that we will never forget. Being the first group of occupational therapy students at Worcester State College to travel to Central America, we were unsure what we would encounter during our international travel, but were eager to extend our services in any way we could.

Next to Haiti, Nicaragua is the second poorest country in the western hemisphere. The majority of Nicaraguans live below the poverty line, many in extreme conditions. Many Nicaraguans struggle to feed their families, gain employment, provide for their children, and survive. In Nicaragua, there are also many pathologies caused by environmental hazards and lack of proper nutrition such as: growth and developmental disorders in children, diabetes, burns, amputations, and respiratory disorders. The majority of Nicaraguans live in makeshift houses or "shanties" within the community, where there is a massive amount of pollution due to a lack of waste management services.

By traveling to Nicaragua, we wished to gain a better understanding of the healthcare system and determine where occupational therapy services would be of the greatest assistance. Although there are not many occupational therapists employed in Nicaragua, many facilities incorporate a more holistic view into their treatment. This holistic view involves forming a relationship with each individual patient and focusing on their interests throughout treatment. Although there had been an Nicaraguan occupational therapy program housed by the state university in the recent past, economic constraints forced its closure. A physical therapy program does exist but its curriculum is limited and does not address client needs for which occupational therapy is best suited.

Forming an affiliation with the non-profit organization, Manna Project International, we were able to explore the various healthcare options that Nicaragua has to offer. MPI was established in 2003 by a handful of students from Vanderbilt University in Tennessee. The vision of MPI is to establish a global network where young adults can live and work alongside one another in under-served communities to initiate positive change. From our observations that is exactly what this organization has accomplished. MPI volunteers are involved in teaching a variety of programs within the Nicaraguan community from English literacy and composition to women's health and fitness classes. Volunteers at MPI are enthusiastic and committed to forming a powerful connection with the community members, as well as with one another.

While in Nicaragua, we also had an opportunity to view a private, state of the art children's burn clinic, observe the creation and fitting of prosthetics for amputee patients, visit with developmentally disabled children in an orphanage, and tour an adult rehabilitation hospital. We were amazed by the amount of skilled workers employed at these locations, who were creating necessary supplies to initiate treatment right before our eyes. Our group also visited the Managua city dump, La Chureca, where 1,500 people currently live and work. We were struck by the amount of poverty that we saw, and were emotionally affected by the environmentally hazardous conditions where these people live, work, and attend school. Despite this poverty, we were welcomed into this challenging community with open arms.

We were also involved in a hands-on experience at Tesoros de Dios, a school for developmentally and physically disabled children that includes an equine therapy program. This program uses therapeutic horseback riding to assist the children in gaining muscle strength and building social relationships. At the school we worked closely with the children, sharing our occupational therapy knowledge and expertise with parents and staff.

This trip was a pilot visit to determine the need for occupational therapy services in Nicaragua, specifically Managua and the capital region. Another goal was to form connections and alliances that would lay the foundation for continuing international experiences, thus enhancing the quality of our occupational therapy program in relation to cultural competence. This experience will help us to become better clinicians both in terms of knowledge and sensitivity. Understanding diverse cultures is at the core of being not only a well rounded therapist but also a responsive individual. We encourage all students to seek opportunities for international travel. Being involved in hands-on learning and cultural activities is something that you cannot learn from simply reading a textbook, you must experience it.

For more information regarding the occupational therapy program or international travel offered at Worcester State College contact:

Professor Jacqueline Brennan, OTR/L
jbrenne@worcester.edu
508-929-8831

Kelly O'Brien, Assistance Director of Study Abroad Services
kobrien8@worcester.edu
508-929-8104

For information regarding Manna Project International and how you can get involved go to: http://www.manaproject.org/Getinvolved.asp

Is Going Green Great?

Joanna Good
Staff Writer

There has been recent controversy over Worcester State College's decision to "Go Green" by listing classes only online instead of the paper copy. There seems to be mixed opinions among students and faculty over the effectiveness of this change. Those who are against "Going Green" bring up some important questions concerning Webadvisor's capacity and the possibility of the system crashing. Jessica Sargent, a sophomore who has worked at the IT Help Desk for about two years, tries to reassure students that the chance of a crash is slim. She says, "There shouldn't be a crash because last semester they changed something in the system so that Webadvisor will keep going." She is, however, unable to guarantee that a crash will not occur, just that it shouldn't.

It is a good idea to be more environmentally conscious, however people should keep in mind that paper is a renewable resource whereas oil and electricity are not. Encouraging students to recycle the course catalog booklets may be a better way to help the environment. Annmarie Samar, the Interim Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management, admits to one possible disadvantage. She maintains that the change may be an "inconvenience to both students and faculty as they adjust to first time preregistration without the paper booklet." How big of an "inconvenience" will it cause and is it worth it?

Despite this one drawback, Samar vehemently defends and promotes the switch. She explains many positive aspects that cannot be found in the paper brochure. She gives examples, "By clicking the course description--a feature not found in the paper copy. Students are able to seat availability and open/closed status of courses--also not found in the paper brochure, and adjust their registration plans accordingly." Whether you are for or against this change, it is obvious that the electronic course catalog has some convenient benefits that the paper copy is lacking.

"Going Green" has the potential to be a good change for WSC. It all depends if the benefits out weigh the shortcomings. Many students and faculty members, who would rather have the paper copy, are annoyed by this shift. There are some, however, who can see the possibilities associated with the electronic course catalog. Can students adjust to this change? We will just have to wait and see.
Going Green: Good or Bad?
Erica Lein: "It doesn't appear user friendly. Sometimes it is hard to find the classes you need."
Jesse Paradis: "I think it's sick. The register's office is cramped and stressful. I'd rather sign up for classes at home any way."
SteFano DiFiore: "I think the course catalog should be listed both online and be available in book form, as most colleges have done."
Dana Steingerwalt: "If you're on too long it logs you off."
Catherine Milkowski: "The online version does not show lab time on the first page making it difficult to compare."

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THE VOICE

Worcester State College's Student Newspaper

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The Student Voice of
Worcester State College

The Student Voice is an independent news magazine published throughout the school year with funds procured through advertising and provided by the Student Government Association of Worcester State College, 486 Chandler St., Worcester, MA 01602. The news magazine is published every other Tuesday and is printed by Turley Publications. The Student Voice is serviced for national advertising by Cass Communications and is listed in Oxbridge Communication, Inc.'s Directory of College Student Press in America. The Student Voice takes no responsibility for unsolicited material or manuscripts submitted.

The Student Voice welcomes letters, essays, and articles provided they are typed and are submitted with a name and means to contact the author. Any pieces that are deemed questionable are brought before the executive board. In the event of a tie the Editor-in-Chief has final decision. Letters run at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief and are subject to editing for style and length. The Editor reserves the right to republish any works at their discretion.

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From the Desk of: The Editor in Chief

The Student Voice has overcome a period of being under siege by internal forces for much of the time since this column was last published. Its very existence as a functional organization was brought into question and many people counseled me to give the rest of our staff no other option but surrender. This publication, as inadequate as some may claim to find it, is the product of several people who believe in themselves and decided to stand up against those who are certainly more qualified, experienced and intelligent.

Instead of crying about the rules when we didn't like them, we did what we could to put out a paper. Rather than magnify the petty and abstain in disgust, we did what was necessary to fulfill our mission statement. Rather than obstruct from afar, we led by example. Instead of throw mud as far as we could, we shut up, in a relative sense, and did our jobs.

As readers, you may notice some differences in the composition of the Voice staff for the remainder of the semester. These are the people who chose existence instead of surrender.

On another note, the Voice is very grateful to Dartmouth College for its generosity to our publication within this edition.

Letters to the Editor

Problems With Guests

Residential students enjoy having occasional visitors. However, Worcester State College does not make it easy for people to visit students on campus. When a family member or friend comes to visit a Worcester State resident, they have to receive both a visitor's parking pass and visitor's pass before they can go anywhere on campus. This is ridiculous because no one even checks the visitors' passes. The visitor parking system is horrendous too. You have to drive to the upper lot, get a pass, and then drive back down to park next to the gym. After parking, you and your visitor have to walk up the hill to go back to the residence halls. This is a hassle, but can also be dangerous. Say it is late at night, and you and your visitor are both female and you have to walk all the way up that hill by yourselves in the dark: this is dangerous because someone could attack you and nobody would see. Also, in the winter walking up the long hill in the snow is cold and miserable. The parking for visitors needs to be moved to a more convenient location. This would be safer for students walking at night and a shorter walk in the wintertime. It is true that giving visitors more convenient parking would cut into the number of spots for residents. This could pose a new problem, but it could be prevented by designating just a small part of the upper lot as visitor parking.

Nichole Hadley

Speedbumps Hidden Danger

When we think of winter, we think of snowboarding, skiing, tubing, and the widely-appreciated snow days, but we also think of hail, sleet, ice, and car crashes. Throughout all of this, we overlook one minute detail: sand-covered speed bumps. In the spring, summer, and fall these yellow painted speed blockades are clearly visible, but come winter with its ritual sand dumping, they become car killers. Being a freshman commuter at Worcester State College, I have experienced, first-hand, the treachery of hidden speed bumps.

By the gymnasium, below the posted speed limit of 15 mph, there's a sign warning drivers of a speed bump. However, this sign alone is not enough. It warns of only one of the many speed bumps present on the Worcester State campus. While maintaining the posted speed and paying attention to pedestrians, you cannot possibly find speed bumps that blend in with the rest of the ground, until you're bottoming out and cursing. One mistake can lead to hundreds of dollars in damage.

To avoid this dangerous problem, signs could be placed at each speed bump, warning drivers of what is to come. An even better solution would be to sweep off the hazardous sand. The best solution would be the combination of both since different people respond to different stimuli. I recently received an email announcing that campus roads would be swept on March 20th and 21st, but this comes far too late for the winter season.

Michael Bertrand

New Edition Not Required

With all the money we already pay for college, the increasing cost of textbooks seems to be consuming an ever-larger portion of our budgets. When students walk into the College Bookstore they hope that the books required for their courses are available as used copies so that they're a bit cheaper, but every couple of years new editions are released, making it harder for students to purchase used versions. Specific editions should be available and accepted at Worcester State for a certain time period, so that students have the option of buying cheaper used copies.

Lindsey Bonner

Update the Website

The WSC website is pitifully inadequate. Many organizations are not represented on it and those that are have not updated their site since 2005 or even earlier. The yearbook and newspaper are not even represented on the site. There are probably other organizations not represented but I cannot comment on those because I have no way of knowing what they are. I only know about the yearbook and newspaper because I see their output. Even though I am a commuter, my friends in the dorm don't seem to have any information on activities either. It is passed on by word of mouth for the most part.

The WSC website is an important communication tool and in light of the fact that we are a generation that is tuned in to the internet perhaps more than any other, it makes the college seem woefully behind the times to have such an outdated site. A quick review of the websites of other Worcester colleges shows that theirs are up to date with a myriad of activities highlighted.

Keeping the website updated would be beneficial for prospective students wondering what Worcester State has to offer. I recommend that the Student Activities Committee hold a meeting to enlist volunteers to keep the website updated.

Lonely Freshman,

Susanne Laux

Dowden Needs More Soaps and Towels in the Bathroom

I think that the custodians do a great job of cleaning Dowden Hall. They are always cleaning the bathrooms in the morning and they buff the floors almost every hour of every day. So if it's your shoes that you want to keep clean and healthy, you won't have to worry about that here. Your hands, though, may be a problem. Empty soap containers and paper towel racks are very common sights in Dowden bathrooms.

There are two soap dispensers in every bathroom and ever since the first day I moved in, last fall, one out of the two dispensers on my floor has been empty. The second dispenser is rarely filled and most of the time is empty. But the times when we residents do get to wash our hands with soap, we will go to dry them and there won't be any paper towels. After talking to other residents, I found out that this was a problem on all five floors.

"I just use my anti-bacterial gel after leaving the bathroom; there's no sense in washing my hands with just water and drying them off on my clothes", said Leandra Carey, another Dowden Hall resident. This is a big hygiene problem; I believe that it should be fixed as soon as possible.

Jordan Holm

Celebrating Getting Older

Matt Brown
Staff Writer

Every student walks into the Student Center on campus, maybe to grab some food or maybe to meet up with friends. It's also the site of academic workshops, comedy shows, and most importantly, this seemingly unimportant building holds offices of numerous WSC student-run clubs and activities. Some pass through simply to get to class. But one thing is for sure, every student has spent time in this particular building buying books.

On April 3rd, the WSC Student Center celebrated its 30 year anniversary with a 1978 themed gathering in the exhibition area of the building. Hosted by the Student Center Birthday Committee, the celebration included posters with 1978 pop culture trivia, a slideshow presentation put together by Dana Lyford, and vintage photographs of the opening of the building and students. Ice-cream, a strawberry dipping fountain, and of course cake were also available.

Students could win prizes and gift packs by correctly answering trivia or by receiving randomized winning e-mails. Gift packs were provided by Chartwells and the Worcester State College Bookstore.

"The occasion," remarked Tim Sullivan, "was put together more to honor and celebrate the students who use the building than to celebrate the actual brick and mortar."

The building was first erected with much anticipation by the entire WSC campus, especially since multiple delays had held back the originally planned opening date. Finally, on April 3rd 1978, the ribbon was finally cut. The 1978 building project graced the cover of The Student Voice through nearly its whole production, and now, 30 years later, its anniversary is gracing the pages of TSV once again.

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EAG's Schedule is Packed Tight!

Chrissy Kenney
Staff Writer

The Environmental Advocacy Group is happy to announce that their busy month of March was a successful one. Spreading go-green information across campus, the group provided films for students to watch about various environmental issues last month. The most recent one shown, "How Cuba Survived Peak Oil," covered the economic decline and oil supply decrease that happened in Cuba due to the Soviet Union collapsing in the early nineties. Because of this scare, the people of Cuba worked together to overcome such events. In trying to control energy consumption, Cuba became leaders in public transportation, organic gardening, and fossil fuels. After watching the film, the group of WSC students discussed the happenings, and how the United States could incorporate these different styles of energy consumption to cut down on usage.

Member Christopher Noonan also reminisces about a special speaker that came to talk to students. He states, "Dr. Moser from NCAR, National Center for Atmospheric Research, and former Union of Concerned Scientists researcher, gave an exceptional speech on ways to communicate climate change in a manner which encourages growth, change and community building." This speech acted as a means to show students productive ways to discuss climate change, and how to get these ideas out there in order to encourage growth and community changes. Moser used her research to illustrate how communication among Americans could help potentially solve the environmental crises that may occur in the future.

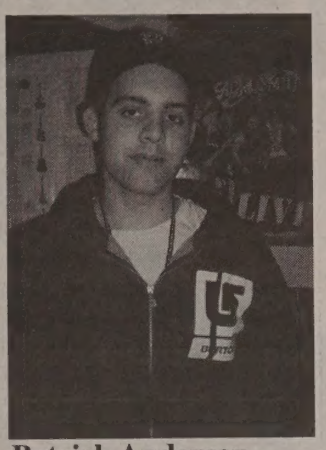
While March was certainly an admirable month for EAG, the organization isn't exactly slacking during April, either. The month kicked off with a bang, where members attended a protest held by Clark University. Noonan explains, "[In order] to protest Bank of America financing of coal fired power plants, a staged fight between a windmill, backed by community supporters and a coal plant, backed by billionaires was held."

EAG did not stop there with April events; the club also has big plans for April 11th. This marks the date of the Mountain Top Removal Show, a presentation by activist David Cooper which features pictures and music of Appalachia. This event will be held at the Worcester Public Library at 3:30 p.m. EAG is also making plans to attend "Powershift", a conference that recognizes "grass roots student volunteers" who plan to hold workshops letting people know about global warming and "green jobs." An expected speaker is the former CIA director, as well as many other national environmental leaders, including Senator John Kerry.

The Environmental Advocacy Group also looks forward to planning for Earth Day, in which a clean-up is scheduled for Crystal Park at the end of the month. EAG is keeping the students and faculty of Worcester State College readily informed of the environmental issues occurring as we speak. The group is keeping its schedule as busy as ever, all for the greater good of our campus, state, country, and universe!

VOICE OFF!

What activities would you like to see on Worcester State Campus?
by : Liz Malone



Patrick Anderson
"I think a semi-formal or dinner dance would be fun. It might even get some people to stay on the weekends."

Katie Cahill
"More structured activities or groups, like the dance company or choral."

Jeanna Goudy
"I think we should have more pep rallies for sports related events. The girls basketball team had just went ot the playoffs, we should have had a pep rally for them."

Liz Flight
"Different things to do on the weekend like movie nights, and activities in the dorm rooms."

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"21" Is the Magic Number

Jen Robbins
Contributor

"Winner, winner, chicken dinner!" Seemingly meaningless words, right? Well, not to Ben Campbell (Jim Sturgess), a soon-to-be graduate of MIT. Before hearing these words Ben was just an ordinary overachiever; almost a 4.0 GPA at MIT, has just been granted early acceptance to Harvard Medical School, and is in the process of building a car that can drive itself, with the help of his friends of course. The only thing that seems to be standing in his way is money. Assuming his calculations are correct, which they always are, attending Harvard Med. for four years will cost him about $300,000. Ben realizes that his only options for paying for school are either to work at a suit store, making his new wage of $8.00 an hour, or to get a scholarship; however, he soon discovers that there are other ways of making money.

Once we have been introduced to one of Ben's teachers, Mickey Rosa (Kevin Spacey), the movie suddenly moves into another direction. Ben soon finds himself to be the "Big Player" of a card counting team, forgetting all about robots and calculus, to remember a bunch of hand signals and simple math. His weekends of homework and studying were replaced by Vegas parties, limos, and pretty girls. Although, their plan was seemingly flawless, nothing goes by unnoticed.

"21," based on the book "Bringing Down the House" by Ben Mezrich, is definitely the movie to see this weekend. It has everything to satisfy any movie goer: action, comedy, romance, and not to mention a fantastic cast (Sturgess, Spacey, Kate Bosworth, Aaron Yoo and more). This movie undoubtedly "dazzled" me and is worth seeing again and again.

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EVERYWHERE

Matthew Brown
Staff Writer

Some people still no wonder why movie theatres are in steady financial decline every year. One answer is the major movie company funding to back movies like *Superhero Movie*.

Taken almost solely from the *Spiderman* trilogy, *Superhero Movie* follows Rick Riker (Drake Bell) who gets bit by a radioactive dragonfly. Powers are had and a fight against the evil Hourglass (Christopher McDonald) ensues. There are jokes, or faint attempts at jokes, and outtakes a-plenty.

The film attempts to pack as much comedy punch in every line as possible but simply put, this movie is hack scriptwriting at its finest. As well as its counterpart movies including *Scary Movie*, *Not Another Teen Movie*, *Date Movie*, *Epic Movie* and *Meet the Spartans*, *Superhero Movie* is worth about as much as a punch to the jaw.

The running time of the film is a mere 85 minutes, which also includes 15 minutes of outtakes that roll during the credits. It is hard to think that this movie made it through all the script revisions and green-lights that a film must pass through to be put into production. But the moviegoer that would enjoy this movie would not be the kind to read movie reviews or take them into account before actually seeing the film. My opinion, don't waste your pretty pennies on this movie.

Lifehouse: The Disarray Tour

Jen Robbins
Contributor

The band Lifehouse has been around for ten years now and has only produced a handful of top-ten singles. Many people know them for their first hit, "Hanging by a Moment", off of their first CD entitled *No Name Face*. Following that they attempted to release a few other songs without much success; however, several years later they found themselves with another huge hit, "You and Me" off of their self-titled album. This year Lifehouse has, again, caught us by surprise with their two newest songs "First Time" and "Whatever it Takes." Rather than playing in small venues in no-name-places, they are headlining their own tour, The Disarray Tour (sold out in many locations), with Matt Nathanson and Honey Honey as their opening bands.

On March 28, 2008, their tour made a stop at the Orpheum Theatre in Boston. Upon arriving several hours early I was able to catch their tour bus parked outside of the venue, and steal a wave from the drummer (Rick Woolstenhulme); although it would have been nice to get something more than a wave I was completely satisfied. Later, when the venue opened I found my terrible seat and got myself settled in for a great show.

Honey Honey came out first. Their music didn't really seem to fit-in with the crowd that was there; however, they were very talented. I would classify their music as folk, having two guitars, a drummer, and the singer, who plays a violin and a banjo. They played for 30 minutes and did the job that they were meant to do, keep us occupied. Following Honey Honey, Matt Nathanson, a Boston native, came out on stage. This was the first that I had ever heard of this Matt guy, but I know that it won't be the last. His performance was unbelievable. He was funny, talented, and good looking, I'm sure that we will be hearing him on the radio very soon.

Finally, after two hours of pre-shows and intermissions, Lifehouse came out on stage. They played a mélange of songs, ranging from their most recent CD, *Who We Are*, all the way back to their first. Although, their performance was filled with great songs and entertainment, there were some questions left floating in my head. This tour is called The Disarray Tour, but they didn't play the song "Disarray." Also, in promoting their album, *Who We Are*, I expected them to play the song "Who We Are." Not only did I feel that they were lacking in their song choice, but I felt that since I had to wait two hours for them to come on stage that their performance should have lasted more than an hour.

Being a die-hard Lifehouse fan it pains me to see that their performance was not up-to-par. The band has decided to extend their tour through part of the summer; although, they will not be returning to Boston, they will be in New England and I would suggest that any one who is interested in Lifehouse's older songs attempt to see this tour.

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Intern Hell: Caroline's Fad Diet

Jacqueline Morrill
Managing Editor

I think at one point in my short career as a journalist intern I developed a sort of "bed sore." You know what they are; those bruises on your legs that you might develop from sitting in one place for too long. The majority of people who develop these particular black-and-blues are the bedridden elderly folks. However, unlike those hospitalized men and women, I was young, healthy, and bored while wasting time in the Intern Nightmare office. In most recent news, Caroline was on a diet. "I'm trying to lose weight so that me and my husband can have sex again," she'd say, not in a whisper. Apparently she wasn't ashamed of the fact that her husband didn't find her sexually attractive. The secretary liked to join in on these specific conversations, she was cooped up in this office just like I was, we were alike, the secretary and I. We both enjoyed the office gossip, except when she giggled everyone else laughed with her; however, when I giggled to myself, in my tiny cubicle, the other writers just stared, rolled their eyes, and let out little grunts as if to say, "What would she know about being married, about sex? She's only twelve, right?"

Caroline's plan to lose weight was simple enough. She ate three meals a day. Breakfast was a grapefruit, but she couldn't sprinkle it with sugar, that would add more calories. Lunch was half of a turkey sandwich on whole-grain bread, no cheese, no mayo, no mustard. Just turkey and bread. This was to be immediately followed by a tall glass of a lemonade-chili-powder concoction that she shook between two glasses over the sink. I'd watch her as she played diet bartender in the kitchen area at exactly 12:12 pm every day. Two parts lemonade in the first plastic cup filled half with ice. Then she gingerly added two teaspoons of chili-powder and one teaspoon of honey. Shake, shake, shake. I can't imagine spicy lemon juice ever quenching my thirst after eating dry bread and shaved turkey, but Caroline was determined to impress her hubby. Dinner was a splurge, she was allowed (she had permission from her personal nutritionist of whom she paid sixty dollars per hour for two hours a week, twice a week, to plan this genius diet) to consume one Lean Cuisine a day, but it had to be one of four selected meals. The saturated fats from the greasy cheeses of "low-fat" lasagna, ravioli, and pizza were forbidden, and with the absence of fake cheese and dairy, Caroline's smile faded too. I felt sorry for her at first, but then, I didn't. I thought, geez, have some dignity for yourself. Why are you paying some money-grubbing health guru to tell you what you can and can't eat in order to lose weight not for yourself, but for your husband?

The secretary thought it was awesome. She would blab on for hours about the two-hundred-and-seventy-three (okay, so that's a bit of an exaggeration) fad diets she had suffered through in her lifetime. She had done the all grapefruit diet, the all grapes diet, the Atkins diet, the all meat and cheese diet, the vegan diet, the all-dairy diet, the asparagus and water diet, among many others. One of which she described sounded like some form of prisoner of war torture. She was allowed to eat nine almonds for breakfast and dinner. For lunch she would cook together lentils and broccoli (without butter and salt) and in between, she had these little chalk-pellets that tasted like artificially chocolate flavored vitamins. It didn't sound appetizing.

One Monday I mustered up enough courage to talk to Caroline in front of the other office writers. I casually strutted to the kitchen area and pretended to make a cup of coffee. She was frustratingly mixing her lemon-chili mix. I heard her stomach grumble and imagined a hand reaching out from her abdomen, like those hot-dog commercials where the hand reaches for a Ball Park frank and stuffs its owner's face. "Why don't you just go to the gym and eat three whole, healthy meals a day?" I asked hesitantly. Caroline stopped shaking. The secretary leaned out the side of her desk, popping gum between her pouty pink lip-glossed mouth. Caroline turned around, looked me over, raised an eyebrow and, as if I was a six year old asking why the sky is blue, she condescendingly replied, "You'll understand when you're older, kid."

Student Elections April 16th and 17th
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Polls in Upper Cafeteria, S.C., 4 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

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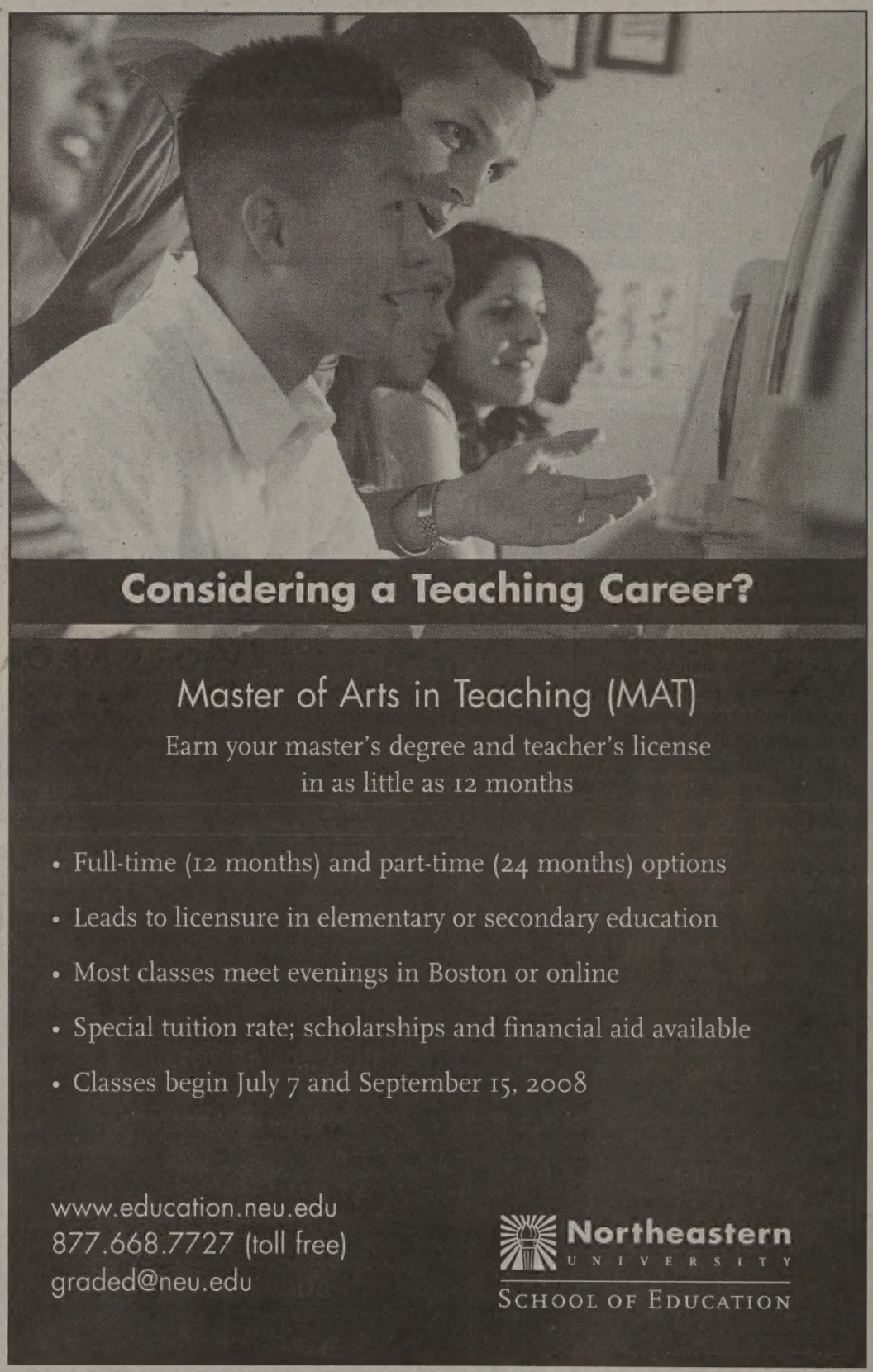
For more information, contact Senate Parliamentarian Brian Patacchiola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Wright For Us!

Chrissy Kenney
Staff Writer

The Student Voice has added a seemingly overqualified qualified fresh face to its staff this semester, as we welcome our new Business Manager, Jessica Wright. Wright was born in Worcester, but has bounced around from city to city until finally settling in Oxford, Massachusetts. She attended Holy Name High School, but decided to take a plunge and attend her freshman year of college at Virginia Tech.

However, homesick feelings caused Jessica to come back to her routes and attend a college much closer to home, Worcester State. She gushes that the school has an affordable tuition, and that since attending here, she has been in a much closer proximity to her friends than she had been before.

Although she is presently a Business major, Wright has quite the list of previous majors: architecture, merchandising management, education, and psychology. Now that she has finally decided upon Business, Wright feels as though the major incorporates, "money, economics, people, children, adults, teamwork, creativity, etc. It provides a lot of opportunities to experience a lot of different occupations."

The Student Voice is not the only student organization Wright is a member of, and it is not the only one she holds a leadership role in either. She is a member of the leadership honor society, Omicron Delta Kappa, as well as the Helping Emerging Leaders Program. Perhaps her most noteworthy accomplishment belongs to her position as the President of SIFE, Students in Free Enterprise.

"It is primarily a business club," gushes Wright, "although we have students from various other majors who are active participants." The primary focus of SIFE is to help students learn about free enterprise and how to use these skills in the real-world. SIFE offers "basic business principles" to other organizations to assist these groups with financial improvement. Members of SIFE hope to do many projects on campus, similar to the dining etiquette seminars they have already created.

She has plenty of organization experience to convince the Voice she is qualified, but does she have the plan to back it up? "I would like to set up a Public Relations plan which will help you to better understand the student body," she explains. "From the PR plan, a media agenda can be set which will help increase funding for your newspaper, and the amount of advertising for the local community."

Ultimately, Wright hopes to set up a partnership between SIFE and The Student Voice. Doing this will allow for the Voice to have multiple business managers in charge of different departments. The Voice is ready and willing to place our business responsibilities on the shoulder of Wright, for her past experiences reassures us that she is perfect for our staff!

How to Successfully Work a Career Fair

Jacqueline Morrill
Staff Writer

Career fairs…for many college students the concept of dressing up and piling into a Centrum-sized room with hundreds of other career hungry adults sounds far from enjoyable. And what happens if the only gifts received from those zillions of booths labeled "Your Future Begins At…" are cheap pens? In light of these current anxieties, Career Services set up a "How to work a Career Fair" workshop on Thursday, March 13th. in the North Auditorium and sadly only seven students attended, including myself. In my past experience, weak attendance can signal one of two things: the presentation will be a failure, or, the presentation didn't receive enough publicity and hundreds of students will be missing out on a remarkably eye-opening experience. Unfortunately, *my* eyes were not opened any more than they were when I had arrived.

Like every presentation/ workshop, the introduction was pleasant, a representative from MediTech paced the front of the room and smiled (in case you are unfamiliar with MediTech, from what I could understand, they specialize in ordering medical supplies). Whatever the case, the representative continued with a slide show and revealed the secrets, the so-called "hot tips" for working a career fair. The top ten best hints, (though they all seem a little too obvious) are as follows:

1) Fine tune your resume (Make sure to include any recent activities, GPA increases, etc.)

2) Review the attendees (Plan out which companies look the best so that you don't end up lost in the labyrinth of career kiosks)

3) Research the companies that interest you

4) Dress appropriately and professional (No jeans, sneakers, baseball hats, belly-tops, etc.)

5) Carry your resumes or additional paper work in a brief case or folder (Avoid back-packs, they look sloppy)

6) When introducing yourself, follow this basic format: "Hello, my name is (first, last), I am a (class year) at (college name) with a major in (major) and I am considering (career focus)."

According to the all-knowing MediTech representative, this introduction should take no longer than 30 seconds.

7) Have a quick chat, but allow time for the representative to speak as well (too much talking can come off as over-eager or nervous).

8) Keep a record of all the companies that you spoke with and gave your resume to in order to avoid duplicate submissions

9) Follow up with a thank-you e-mail or written letter to reiterate your interest in the company

10) Career fairs are all about selling yourself to a company, so be confident and don't pigeon-hole yourself based on your major or degree.

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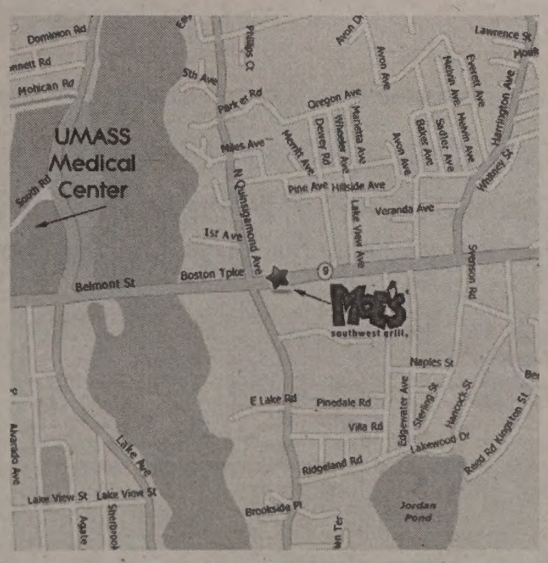

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WORCESTER MASSACHUSETTS

Review of Anti-Flags album: Bright Lights of America
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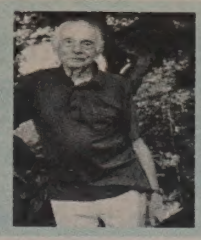

Poet Stanley Kunitz lives on in documentary
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The Student Voice

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Volume 3, Number 5

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Invisible Children: Can You See Them?

Jenn Robbins
Contributor

"We never realized how many children could go unseen, how many beautiful faces could be invisible." These words were spoken by Bobby Bailey, an average twenty-something guy who, one day, decided to do the out of the ordinary. Bobby and two of his friends ventured over to Africa with a video camera to capture their, soon to be, unforgettable vacation.

There has been a war waging in northern Uganda for twenty-one years now, that country's longest ever conflict. Due to this conflict there is almost no schooling, no jobs, and no sufficient housing left. Also, because the conditions are so poor the people living in small villages have to commute to larger, more populated areas and sleep in places like bus or train stations, and other public places. The main reason for doing this is because the LRA (Lord's Resistance Army) kidnap young children from the villages at night so that they can train them to become killing machines. It's been "estimated that more than 90% of the LRA's troops are children," according to invisiblechildren.com. Basically, many children of Uganda have been brainwashed and trained to kill their friends, family, and neighbors without a second thought about it.

The reason why Invisible Children came to Worcester State College was to spread the word about this terrible situation. Unfortunately, there are very few people taking action against this horrible dispute; however, with the help of this organization they have been able to get the word out to millions of people. Two events in particular seem to get the biggest reaction from the public: Displace Me and the Global Night Commute.

Displace Me took place in April of 2007 and gave the general public the chance to experience what it is like for the people of Uganda to be displaced. Those who took part in the displacement gathered in a common area of their city and were educated on the situation in Uganda, as well as showed the realities of what displacement is like. A year prior to Displace Me was the Global Night Commute, where people walked from near and far to their local city and "took a stand by lying down."

Events such as Displace Me, the Global Night Commute and the Invisible Children Tour have done so much for the people of Uganda and will continue to spread the word until something is done to stop it. Although the tour that came to WSC only showed us a little bit of what was going on, such as their video story about a boy named Sunday, and the suffering that they experience on a daily basis, there is much more to be learned about this crisis.

Bobby Bailey, his friends, and those who are taking part in this project are most definitely heroes. Hopefully, one day their hard work will pay off and the war in northern Uganda, as well as the LRA will cease to exist and the people of this country will once again live in peace.

With that being said, this leaves us all with only one question: Will you see them?

"Ctrl, Alt, Del": WSC Writing Center Attends the NEWCA Conference

Jacqueline Morrill
Managing Editor

With the end of each fall semester, the Writing Practicum class, taught by Professor Carey Smitherman, is required to write either an article to the Writing Lab Newsletter or a proposal for the annual Northeast Writing Centers Association's conference. This year, proposals by four WSC students, Hayley Stefan, Brenda Cummings, Jennifer Robbins, and Melanie Wilcox were chosen to be presented at NEWCA's 24th conference, held in Burlington Vermont at the University of Vermont. Unfortunately, due to time constraints and jam-packed schedules, only two students accepted the challenge of presenting, Jennifer Robbins, and replacement Jacqueline Morrill.

Though the start to the conference weekend on April 13th was rocky with constant rain spatterings and icy winds, the NEWCA key note presenters were dead set on keeping spirits up, especially since the introductory speech was to be given at 9 a.m. The title of key note speaker, traditionally a prestigious position held by one person, was shared by a panel comprised of the five women authors of the celebrated book *The Everyday Writing Center: A Community of Practice*. The speakers, Anne Ellen Geller, Michele Eodice, Frankie Condon, Meg Carroll, and Elizabeth Boquet, forced audience members to think about the actual sanctity and space of the Writing Center, and used clever, comical, and sometimes taboo situations in order to convey the message that a Writing Center is not just an editing center or a "fixer-upper," but is rather a social community.

Throughout their joint-conversationalist speech, the key note speakers effectively tied this year's theme of "Ctrl, Alt, Del" into the discussion. As metaphors for persistence and regeneration, these three technologically identified abbreviations were used as tools in order to convey a theory of constant "rebooting" in the Writing Center as a whole, and the idea that a successful and modern Writing Center is always changing. In relation to this broad definition, each session of the conference was also centered on an individual or compilation of the three computer key themes. Naturally, there were many sessions devoted to discussing the deletions that must be made in a writing center and which revisions should be made in the future. The alternative practices of both tutors and teachers were obviously held under the theme of "Alt," but the theme that WSC students and many others decided to pursue, was the relative topic of "Misconceptions of 'Ctrl' in the Writing Center." Presenters included video clippings, real life situations, and good old fashion conversational skills in order to interact with students, faculty, and writing center supervisors alike, about the expectations and misunderstandings of the Writing Center from three different, but equally important perspectives: the tutor, the teacher, and the student.

There is no doubt that the presenters and WSC Writing Center have benefitted from this educational experience, and we hope that in the future, WSC writing center tutors will continue to learn and grow by attending the NEWCA conference.

Darfur Diaries: Message From Home

Allyson Mackenna
Contributor

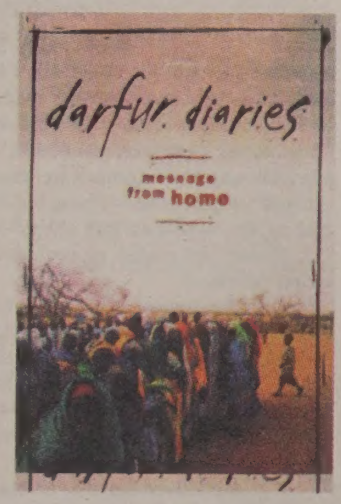
Darfur. Many people have heard the name, heard people discussing the "crisis" occurring in that region of Sudan, but are unsure about what is really happening there. On April 17, Worcester State's chapter of Amnesty International showed the film *Darfur Diaries: Message From Home* in the North/South auditorium. The group's goal was to educate the Worcester State community about this important and ongoing issue. Thanks to this stirring movie, many people left the auditorium more knowledgeable about the violence the people in Darfur have had to live with and its effects on their lives.

This documentary was begun in October 2004 when three human rights activists snuck across the border into Darfur to make a documentary. These filmmakers had learned that genocide was happening in Sudan, and no one else seemed interested in getting out the word. Africans in Darfur were being murdered and forced to flee by the Janjaweed, a militant Arab group with the support of the Sudanese government. Many survivors of the attacks fled across the border into Chad, where they live in refugee camps. Others ran away to different parts of Sudan. When the filmmakers arrived, they saw homes destroyed, schools destroyed, and lives destroyed. Hope, however, could not be destroyed.

Darfur Diaries gives an overview of the situation, but is more concerned with letting the individuals who have been affected by the violence speak out about their experiences, their fears, and their dreams. The children's words are especially powerful. One young girl ran away with her brother while the rest of their family was killed. Her brother suffered a broken leg, and the girl had a recurring nightmare about the planes bombing and breaking his other leg. Despite the trauma she had gone through, her childish imagination would not let her dream of worse horrors.

Education of their children remains a top priority for survivors, as they believe that education will bring about change and a brighter future for their country and their children.

When the documentary was being made, the filmmakers probably imagined that by now the situation would be stabilized. Sadly, this is not the case. Millions of Darfurians are still displaced and in danger of attack. To learn more about how you can help, visit www.darfurdiaries.org, especially the Education Project. And if you didn't make it to the film showing, be sure to order a copy of the DVD.



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THE VOICE

Worcester State College's Student Newspaper

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The Student Vice of Worcester State College

The Student Voice is an independent news magazine published throughout the school year with funds procured through advertising and provided by the Student Government Association of Worcester State College, 486 Chandler St., Worcester, MA 01602. The news magazine is published every other Tuesday and is printed by Turley Publications. The Student Voice is serviced for national advertising by Cass Communications and is listed in Oxbridge Communication, Inc.'s Directory of College Student Press in America. The Student Voice takes no responsibility for unsolicited material or manuscripts submitted.

The Student Voice welcomes letters, essays, and articles provided they are typed and are submitted with a name and means to contact the author. Any pieces that are deemed questionable are brought before the executive board. In the event of a tie the Editor-in-Chief has final decision. Letters run at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief and are subject to editing for style and length. The Editor reserves the right to republish any works at their discretion.

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From the Desk of: The Editor in Chief

The Student Voice is proud to present its final edition of the academic year of 2007/08. Personally, this will be the final time I author this column.

I would like to extend my gratitude to everyone who contributed to this publication over this year. It has been my pleasure to be asked by our members to lead this organization and I look forward to seeing their efforts continue to improve this publication next academic year.

One of the Voice's most important members, Jeff Moffett, will be graduating this semester. Moffett has been instrumental in producing the Voice over the last three years, sometimes with many fewer members than the Voice had the privilege of serving this year. Without him, it is very possible the Voice would not exist today. As a group, we could never show him the gratitude that he deserves for his efforts.

I would also like to personally thank Prof. Dan Shartin for the example of leadership he showed in enabling this organization to do its work. His courage and the example he set for us is something I will never forget. I can only hope that we showed a molecule of the courage in our work that he showed in supporting this publication no matter how inconvenient it became.

The far reaching support this publication received across campus has shocked me. Overwhelming support from faculty members across many departments has been instrumental in our efforts to entertain and inform.

Look for a new iteration of the Student Voice next October! Have a great summer.

Thomas W. Marino III

Intern Hell: It's Not fun, So I'm Quitting

Jacqueline Morrill
Managing Editor

It was a month. Thirty or so days of sitting, listening to thirty-somethings gossip, sitting, writing worthless articles, and yes, more sitting. After hours upon hours of phone conversations in the bathroom with my mother, I had come to the conclusion that this had to end. I had to quit the internship. Now, normally I am not a quitter. Once I begin, I finish, and thankfully, I found a way to stop the torture and still not feel like a complete idiot.

The internship had started out as a three credit course with about one hundred and twenty six hours to complete, but here's the saving grace, the loop hole: with the help of Registrar (which didn't happen too often), I had the ability to decrease my credits from one to three, which, if you can do elementary math, you'd realize that with the completion of forty two hours minimum I could still get credit for this month in office Purgatory, without having to complete any more hours!

The only problem was telling Caroline. After four hours per day, four days per week, for about a month, I had assumed she'd get to like me. I thought maybe we'd have a friendly working relationship as co-workers, as professional acquaintances, and perhaps as future references. However, her diet wasn't working, her smile was frequently absent, and for days I had been procrastinating the whole "idea hunting" process. I knew that my leaving wasn't going to affect the magazine drastically. I was just a kid to these people, I participated as little as possible and was allowed to contribute just one article per week. I wouldn't be that big of a loss. This was what I kept telling myself in order to rationalize my quitting, well, no, not quitting, I like to think of it as backing out early.

The last Thursday of the month my opportune moment arrived. My article for the next week was finished, complete with a title and picture. Caroline seemed to like it, the grimace on her face that morning hadn't budged. One last phone call to my mother cemented my plan. I would walk calmly to her desk once the clock struck 12:30 and the rest of the office went out to lunch. I would make eye contact, but not like a predator, like an equal, like someone intelligent and determined. Then, I would explain to her the elaborately woven excuse I dreamed up the night before: My schedule for the spring is jam-packed, I have a science lab, which would undoubtedly take up most of my time, and I had my extracurriculars to think about. Where on Earth was I going to squeeze the magazine in on that weekly schedule? It was genius, relatable, and most importantly, it was believable.

Twenty nine minutes after twelve the minute hand crept along the clock's face, and finally, with a slight tick, landed smack-dab in the center, 12:30 p.m. The co-writers filed out the main doors just as I turned my head towards Caroline's desk. She was drinking her chili-lemonade potion; now was the time to act. My computer screen was sleeping peacefully; I turned it off early just in case Caroline chased me out of the office. Slowly, carefully, and almost noiselessly, I walked the eight steps over to Caroline's desk and cleared my throat, "Um, Caroline, do you think I could talk to you about my hours?" The dry wheat bread and masticated turkey bits lolled around in her mouth as she grumbled, "Uh, yeah, sure, what do you want?"

I leaned into the opening of her cubicle and nervously picked at my fingernails, "I wanted to let you know that I won't be able to come in during the spring and that next week's article is going to be my last. I know that this is a bit late but--" "Wait!" she put her hand up to silence my chatter and was now staring, I could tell she was confused, or maybe, shocked that I had the guts to tell her I was leaving so soon. "You're quitting?"

She was questioning me, uh-oh. What was I supposed to do? What kind of response was I supposed to give her? I hadn't practiced this. I thought I could just give my speech and run out of there. I shook my head in order to avoid word vomit.

"Fine. That's fine." Exhale. "What? Do you mean that's okay?" I was baffled. I didn't expect this to go over so well, I mean, it wasn't great news to give, but I definitely expected some bitchy advice, or a louder, more stern response. This 'fine' wasn't characteristically normal of the same Caroline I had been working under for a month. "Okay, um, then, I guess I'll just grab my things. Um, thanks so much though, I don't want you to think I'm not appreciative, I am, I just--" she put up her hand again. Stop talking, that's what the hand means.

I grabbed my planner and water bottle, and tucked my pens and decorative notes into the front of my pocket book. Goodbye Intern Hell. And just as I was about to reach the secretary's front desk, Caroline shouted at me. Like every other conversation or issue or argument she had with me, Caroline had to have the last words, "You really screwed us over, kid." I smiled and bit my lip to avoid laughing. She might have had the last words, but I won. She'd be back in the office tomorrow morning, I wouldn't have to set foot within those walls ever again.

The First Annual Worcester County Poetry Association

COLLEGE POETRY COMPETITION FINALISTS' READING

Sunday, April 27, 2008, 2:30 to 4:00 pm
Saxe Room, Worcester Public Library

- **Allan-Michael Brown,** *Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences*
- **David Corliss,** *Worcester Polytechnic Institute*
- **Laura Crawford,** *Fitchburg State College*
- **Elizabeth Heath,** *Mount Wachusett Community College*
- **Gregory Minogue,** *Holy Cross College*
- **Lynsey Sicksch,** *Assumption College*
- **Sandy Wade,** *Quinsigamond Community College*
- **Melanie Wilcox,** *Worcester State College*

The winners will be announced at a reception immediately following the reading

Judged by poets Wayne-Daniel Berard, professor of English at Nichols College, Lea C. Deschenes, performer in national and global poetry slam competitions, Rodger Martin, editor of *The Worcester Review*, and Eve Rifkah, editor of *Diner*

Sponsored by the Worcester County Poetry Association. For more information, visit our website: **http://wcpa.homestead.com**

WSC Student Competes in Poetry Contest

Thomas W. Marino III
Editor in Chief

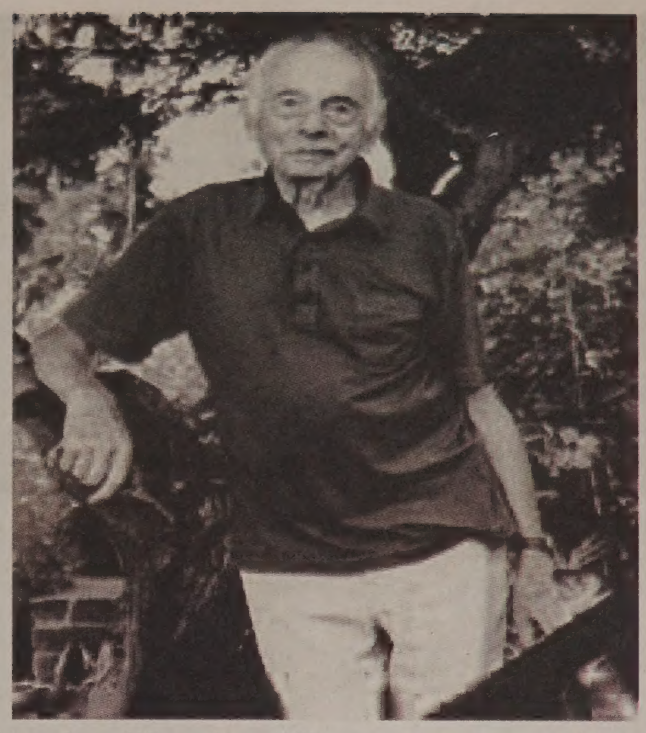
WSC senior Melanie Wilcox will be competing in the first annual College Poetry Competition, hosted by the Worcester County Poetry Association at 2:30 pm on Sunday, April 27, in the Saxe Room at the Worcester Public Library. Melanie is a creative writing concentration through her English major while she minors in Art and French. She is also a volunteer in the Human Rights Center in the Sullivan Academic Center. Last fall, Melanie won first place in Worcester State's annual Barbara Pilon Poetry Contest.

Wilcox, as well as eight other finalists, is competing for two available awards: the WCPA Poetry Manuscript Prize, for a collection of three poems; and the WCPA Poetry Performance Prize, for a spoken-word presentation of a single poem. Winners of both prizes will be announced at a reception immediately following the reading.

The Worcester County Poetry Association inaugurated the College Poetry Competition this year to help encourage and recognize the next generation of poets. The WCPA also continues to hold its annual Poetry Contest, which is open to anyone who lives, works, or studies in Worcester County.

Each finalist was selected by an administrator or creative writing faculty member at his or her college. The other seven finalists are Allan-Michael Brown, from the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences; David Corliss, from Worcester Polytechnic Institute; Laura Crawford, from Fitchburg State College; Elizabeth Heath, from Mount Wachusett Community College; Gregory Minogue, from Holy Cross College; Lynsey Sicksch, from Assumption College; and Sandy Wade, from Quinsigamond Community College.

The competition will be judged by four Worcester County poets: Wayne-Daniel Berard, an English professor at Nichols College and a peace chaplain who has published many poems on spirituality; Lea C. Deschenes, Worcester's representative in the 2005 World Individual Poetry Slam and author of the forthcoming collection *The Constant Velocity of Trains* (Write Bloody Press, 2008); Rodger Martin, editor of *The Worcester Review* and author of three volumes of poetry, including *The Blue Moon Series* (Hobblebush, 2007); and Eve Rifkah, editor of *Diner*, artistic director of Poetry Oasis, Inc., and winner of the 2003 Revelever Chapbook Contest for her chapbook *At the Leprosarium*.



Stanley Kunitz: Worcester Poet Lives on through Memorial Documentary

Jacqueline Morrill
Managing Editor

When Pulitzer Prize winner Stanley Kunitz was asked to give an explanation as to how he became a poet, he simply stated, "I went to the movies instead of going to school." These humorous and sometimes painfully honest elucidations, are what make Stanley Kunitz's poetry so beautiful. He combines the concept of place, specifically Worcester, MA, and detailed excursions of the nature around him in order to portray what the Chronogram Magazine describes as "A heartfelt meditation on how place forms the sensibility of an artist." Kunitz's work, written and read aloud, as well as the actual house he grew up in on 4 Woodford St., is brought to life once again in Tobe Carey's documentary "Stanley's House."

Carey's interest in Kunitz was originally sparked upon realizing that both men had grown up in the same house, only generations apart. Before his death in May of 2006 at the age of one hundred, Kunitz met with Carey and ultimately, the house he had grown out of so many years before. In a time before video games and reality television, the city of Worcester was an imaginary safe haven for Kunitz. Among his favorite hobbies past were gardening and hiking the old "Indian trails" of his country house.

In the film, Kunitz reminisces about his childhood, "Much of the time I was alone, but I learned how not to be lonely." The former Poet Laureate also comically admits to having a sort of love affair with words, as a child he would hide books beneath his mattress and loved to scream newly learned words at the top of his lungs while walking in the forest, only to hear them echo back, while bouncing off the tree trunks of the Worcester woods. "Words like eleemosynary and phantasmagoria…I was practicing my words."

In celebration of National Poetry Month, the Worcester County Poetry Association showed Carey's documentary at four different locations for the convenience of anyone interested in poetry, however, the documentary and Kunitz' poetry will also be presented at WSC on Thursday April 24th at 2:30 in the Blue Lounge, as one last memorial to the local poet. Professor Ken Gibbs (renowned poetry professor at WSC) will open the presentation. Shortly after WSC students will read a selection of Kunitz's passionate words, before closing with Carey's acclaimed documentary.

For more information regarding poetry of Stanley Kunitz, pick up his Pulitzer Prize winning collection of poems *Passing Through* or the 2005 compilation *The Collected Poems of Stanley Kunitz*.

SGA Auction a Great Success!!!

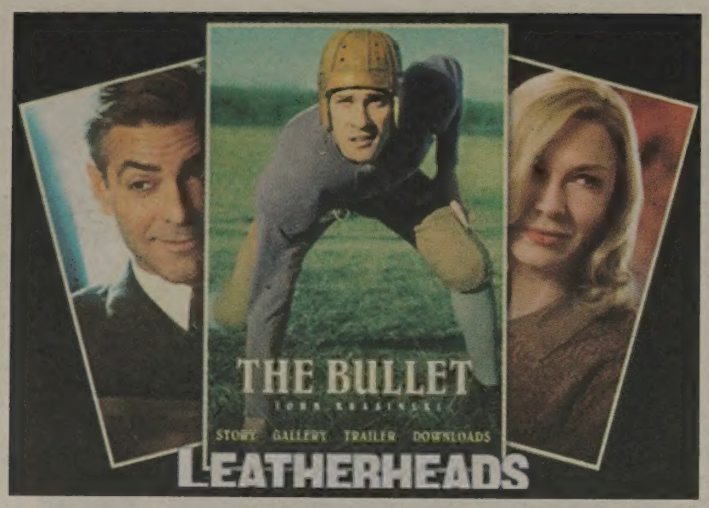
Dana Lyford

The 17th Annual SGA Auction to benefit the homeless was a huge success. The SGA was able to raise $21,422.57 by the time bidding was closed, exceeding their goal by $422.57.

Out of the total money raised, there were also three reverse auctions, which called for donations toward helping one of the three organizations to solve a problem they have in their community. $850 was raised to help Sherry's House provide a laptop for a young man battling cancer, and the auction committee visited Sherry's House to personally deliver the laptop to him. They also raised $1,500.00 to help Abby's House renovate the kitchen in one of their housing facilities and $517.00 to help the Mustard Seed purchase some food and sleeping bags for the people they help every day.

On April 24th at 4:30 pm the Auction Committee will hold a check presentation ceremony in the Exhibit Area. They will be presenting the checks to all three organizations on this day as well as saying a few words about the auction itself.

Congratulations to the three auction chairs, Dana Lyford, Rob Billotta and Tracy Pilch as well as the entire committee including Elizabeth Rooney, Lindsay Durell, Lauren Kender, Brandon Huggon, and Michelle Sarno for all the hard work they put into this auction.



Leatherheads Review

Jenn Robbins
Contributor

Clooney is the name and football is the game, well… sort of. Set in the mid 1920s "Leatherheads" brings us back to the simpler times where there were no rules, referees or coaches who gave a damn. Dodge Connelly (Clooney), a forty-something football player of Duluth, Minnesota, seems to believe that there is nothing more to life than being a football player. However, when his dreams of playing football are shattered because of the financial difficulties of the team, he is forced into finding a "real" job.

Dodge, being smart and witty, is able to capture the attention of a news reporter, Lexie Littleton (Renee Zellweger) who is attempting to meet with "America's favorite son" Carter Rutherford (John Krasinski). Carter is known for being a war hero, a famous football star, and an overall nice guy. It doesn't take long, though, for Lexie to see right through his façade and attempt to get the real story out of him. Dodge, on the other hand, sees Carter as a possible answer to his problems.

Soon enough Dodge and Carter begin working together in football but found themselves on separate teams when it came to Miss Littleton.

Trying to follow the character relationships through this movie is like watching a ping pong match, but I suppose that there is always going to be a love/hate relationship somewhere. Overall, it is definitely a knee-slapper and will keep you giggling in your chair until the credits are rolling.

Light Laughter

Chrissy Kenney
Staff Writer

Last SEC comedian of the semester, Michael Palasack, had an undeniable energy when he took the stage on April 9th, but students did not return his vigor with uproarious laughter due to the fact that his jokes were only mediocre . Perhaps an attempt to sound funnier, Palasack muttered and mumbled his words into the microphone, and tried to recover from comedian failure by mentioning an ever-popular television show, "Saved By the Bell" He seemed a little nervous in front of the audience, but snapped out of it when he discussed his minute job opportunities due to his bachelor's degree in English. Still living with his parents, according to his set, Palasack jokes about his "magical washing machine," and how he once put clothes into the wash, only to find them mysteriously folded on his bed hours later. He reminisces about the relatable aspects of college-life, such as moving out upon graduating, and the money problems that undoubtedly follow the typical college graduate on his or herown. A particular segment that grabbed students' attention was his bit on Hannibal based pick-up lines. His jokes were quick and straight to the point, perhaps as a method to keep the audience from losing interest. While his conclusion was weak, Palasck made a humorous comment about his similar appearance to singer James Blunt. During his performance, several students opted to leave, but the uplifting man handled it all very well, making jokes about those who exited. Palasack might have been a bit of a disappointment to some hopeful students, and he didn't exactly make a strong impression as the final comedian of the semester; however, Michael Palasack's liveliness kept many students entertained, and Worcester State appreciates his efforts!

These distinguished individuals, particularly those retiring this year, have shaped the future of Worcester State College. They have our deepest respect and gratitude.

This year's Retirement and Employee Service Recognition Program will take place on Monday, May 5 at 3:00 p.m. in the Blue Lounge. Invitations will be mailed out at the end of March.

Members Retiring from Worcester State College

Mr. John Bogdan

Library Assistant II, Library (1997-2008)

Professor Clement Delaney

Associate Professor, History/ Political Science (1965 to 2008)

Dr. Susan Gately

Associate Dean of Graduate & Continuing Education (2004 to 2007)

Professor Donald Joyal

Professor, Business Administration/Economics (1997 to 2008)

Dr. Robert J. Perry

Professor, Mathematics (1964 to 2008)

Dr. Susan V. Rezen

Professor, Communication Sciences and Disorders (1980 - 2008

Professor Gerald Robbins

Associate Professor, Philosophy (1971 to 2007)

Dr. Robert M. Spector

Professor, History/Political Science (1963 to 2008)

50-Year Employees as of September 1, 2008

Dr. Melvin Merken

45-Year Employees as of September 1, 2008

Professor Emmett A. Shea

Dr. Robert M. Spector

40-Year Employees as of September 1, 2008

Professor Frank S. Minasian

Dr. Robert K. Sahagian

Professor Richard E. Sullivan

Professor David J. Twiss

30-Years Employees as of June 30, 2008

Professor Francis I. Amory

Mr. Todd L. Benson

Mr. Robert S. Crompton

Ms. Pamela R. McKay

25-Year Employees as of June 30, 2008

Ms. Karen M. Annucci

Mr. Terry R. Brouillette

Mr. Brian Dinsdale

Ms. Colleen E. Laviolette

Mr. Dennis Lindblom

Professor Dennis Moore

Mr. Michael E. Stefanik

Ms. Marcela Uribe-Jennings

20-Year Employees as of June 30, 2008

Professor Jacqueline Brennan

Ms. Doris Little

Mr. Santos Salinas

15-Year Employees as of June 30, 2008

Mr. Oscar G. Almendarez

Mr. Gary G. Beauregard

Dr. Peter M. Bradley

Ms. Judith C. Crown

Ms. Elaine M. Dukes

Dr. Ellen F. Fynan

Ms. Ann Marie Heyes-Smith

Dr. Judith A. Jeon-Chapman

Mr. Don McCabe

Mr. Ralph M. Ricci

Mr. Timothy P. Richard

Dr. Daniel Shartin

Mr. Gerald E. Sorge, Jr.

Dr. Antonieto S. Tan

10-Year Employees as of June 30, 2008

Ms. Faith Audette

Dr. Andrea R. Bilics

Mr. Paul E. Bouchard

Dr. Alta Carroll

Ms. Marion Catacchio

Ms. Sharon Corey

Dr. Laurie A. Dahlin

Dr. Corey Dolgon

Dr. Carol Donnelly

Ms. Kathleen M. Eichelroth

Dr. Anne M. Falke

Ms. Deborah C. Fields-Quinn

Ms. Doreen Foley

Dr. Debra W. Gaston

Dr. Bonnie G. Kanner

Ms. Danusia Kwiatkowski

Dr. Raynold M. Lewis

Dr. Kyle Martin

Ms. Jayne A. McGinn

Mr. Thomas M. McNamara

Dr. William O'Brien

Dr. AnnMarie Samar

Ms. Martha M. Scheffer

Dr. Henry C. Theriault

Dr. Donald W. Vescio

5-Year Employees as of June 30, 2008

Ms. Kathryn R. Baldor

Dr. Margaret P. Bouchard

Dr. Elena Braynova

Ms. Brenda M. Campbell

Mr. Joseph M. Carlomagno

Ms. Katherine A. Cole

Dr. Diane Cooke

Dr. Amy L. Cota-McKinley

Mr. Kirshner Donis

Dr. Robert C. Fink

Mr. Kevin S. Gaudette

Dr. Michael Gesin

Dr. John Goodchild

Mr. Nelson E.Guaman

Mr. Eric W. Hall

Ms. Joanne C. Harder

Mr. John Howell Hood

Ms. Collette Kalogeropoulos

Ms. Nancy Lapriore

Ms. Catherine A. Larson

Dr. Augustus N. Luparelli

Dr. Joan D. Mahoney

Ms. Jessica K. Meany

Mr. Daniel Morin

Dr. Steven J. Oliver

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Dr. Brandi J. Silver

Ms. Carey E. Smitherman

Dr. Champika K. Soysa

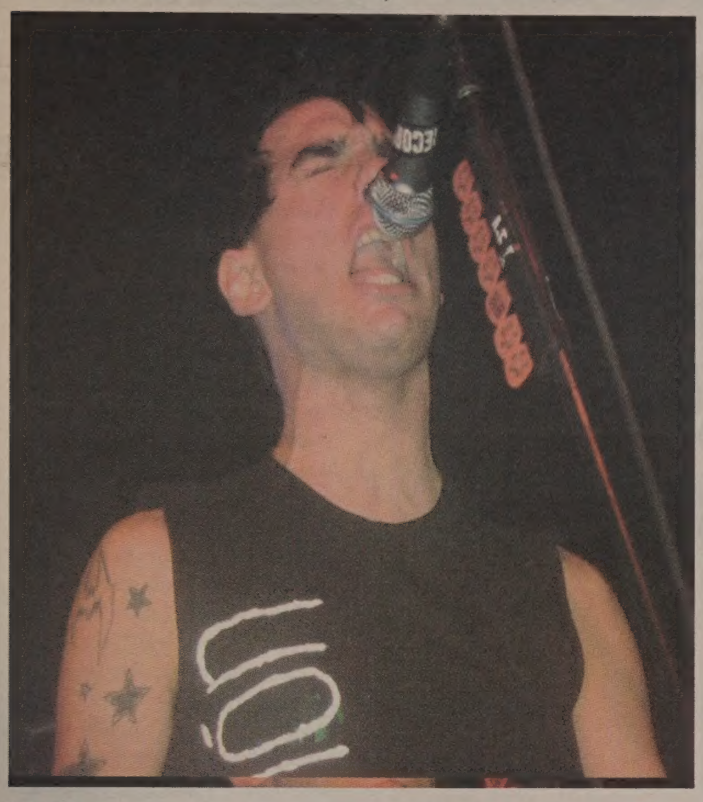
Dr. Randall L. Tracy

Mr. Jose E. Ventura

Dr. Audrey E. Wright

Dr. Barbara Zang

Good Intentions, Bad Record



Matt Brown
Staff Writer

Anti-Flag are a politically charged punk rock act. One of the problems that can arise from being political while trying to preach the message through music is that one of the two aspects will often fall short. On the new release of *The Bright Lights of America*, Anti-Flag trade in their music chops for a political message.

Production intentions could not have been further met than with the addition of famed producer Tony Visconti to Anti-Flag's second major-label release. The Pittsburgh natives have made the ambitious genre-taboo leap from independent Fat Wreck Chords to RCA.

The album stays in tune with the band's left-ist (I don't know what this means) message of old. The title track is an arena-rock fueled sing-along, setting an energy standard for the rest of the record. A more raw, punk sound can be heard on "Spit in the Face", which grits its teeth in anger as it delivers its protest.

The problems arise during the course of the album as many tracks begin to sound like generic punk-rock anthems with little ingenuity put into them. This is not to say that the tracks are not worth their listen, but the songs do not add anything to the music scene they are encased in. Tracks like "Caution to the Wind" and "Smartest Bomb" mean well, but their sound can be heard on nearly any other punk rock record.

Although a major-label act, it is hard to be able to recommend this record to major audiences. Fans will be appeased but new listeners are more likely to be turned off.

Fans and folks can catch Anti-Flag soon as they will be coming to Worcester's Palladium on May 2nd with fellow Boston punk rockers The Street Dogs. Other acts performing include The Briggs and Fake Problems.

Raconteurs Console the Masses

Matt Brown
Staff Writer

With the release of 2006's the Raconteurs' *Broken Boy Soldiers*, audiences were introduced to the side project of musical mastermind Jack White (White Stripes). Accompanying White is fellow singer/songwriter Brendan Benson. Together, the two planned to bring back the storytelling tradition on alternative and folk music, unfortunately, the end result of the first albumis a failure.

Consolers of the Lonely, a title taken from a Washington D.C. post-office building slogan, excels where the previous album failed. White is given more range as the songs take on more individualistic personalities and stray from the sound most fans are accustomed to hearing in the White Stripes.

Controversy circled the release with a leak of the album before it's official date. Nearly every album has issues with leaks, but the LP was positioned as a surprise drop with little media attention given beforehand. The leak only led to more attention and ruined the surprise.

The first single off the album, "Salute Your Solution", is an energetic fist pumping anthem wish a rabble rousing spirit. Tracks "Hold Up" and "Five on Five" follow suit in elevating the noise progression, scattered throughout the disc.

The album delves into folk influenced blues in "Old Enough," but it is in "Many Shades of Black" that the true reason for the formation of the Raconteurs is expressed. A sweeping cadence with horns, the track gives a voice of bitter disagreements that are never resolved.

The reason why artists take on side projects is to explore different music ventures that they cannot incorporate in their original bands, and the worst side project is one that sounds the same as the band that is being left behind.

If you are in search of a rock album in the new Raconteurs album, then you will only be half pleased. *Consolers of the Lonely* succeeds in blending the White Stripes sound while establishing the original goals of songwriting-minded folk music for the masses.

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Don't Be Afraid to Watch "The Ruins"

Joanna Good
Associate Editor

The television ad for the horror flick, "The Ruins", is somewhat misleading. It appears as if bugs are attacking a group of people, however this is not the case. While vacationing in Mexico, four friends, Jeff (Jonathan Tucker), Amy (Jena Malone), Stacy (Laura Ramsey), and Eric (Shawn Ashmore), meet a German tourist, Mathias (Joe Anderson), and his friend Pablo. The four friends are invited to travel through the jungle to an archeological dig where Mathias's brother is supposedly camping out. When they reach the temple, they are surrounded by angry Mayan villagers with guns forcing them to flee to the "safety" of the temple. There about sixty villagers standing watch to make sure that no one leaves. At the top of the temple Mathias's brother is mysteriously missing and all that remains are the empty tents from the archeological crew. The group of tourist friends soon discover that the villagers are not afraid of carnivorous bugs or murderous jungle creatures, but ratherflesh-eating vines that mimic sounds, like the voices of the tourists.

Amy, Jeff's girlfriend, is hands down the most annoying and moronic character. Whoever thinks it's a good idea to wear flip flops while hiking in the jungle deserves to be killed off. Jeff, a medical student, declares himself the leader of the small group and tries to keep everyone calm. Stacy is the promiscuous blonde who is driven crazy by the vinesand her boyfriend Eric, a carefree high school teacher, creates a promising plan in order to distract the human-like vines in hopes of someone getting out alive and sending for help . Mathias is unfortunately surrounded by selfish and dense people who cause him much pain and grief. (I have no idea what she was trying to do with this sentence, it doesn't really fit in, it's out of place).

The tourists barely have any food and no way to escape or protect themselves from the vines, that are in away like parasites that. crawl into their opens wounds and begin to grow on their clothes. Their only medical supplies include a hunting knife and some alcohol. These supplies are used in the goriest scene of the whole movie when Jeff tries to save one of the tourists by amputating both of his legs. They have no anesthesia and once the legs are removed the vines take them. This film has enough gore and suspense to keep you entertained for ninety minutes. If you are in the mood to see something bloody and fast-paced than "The Ruins" is the movie for you.

WSC Art Exhibit: Come See for Yourself

Joanna Good
Associate Editor

The Worcester State College Art Exhibition is open from April 10th to May 7th and is located in the Ghosh Science and Technology Center. The pieces of art have been skillfully created by students chosen by teachers to be displayed in the gallery. The talents of six particularly artistic students have been recognized and in turn, they have received honorable mentions in recognition of their creativity. The Art Exhibition holds a variety of unique and beautiful paintings, sculptures, and photographs, as well as many other works of art.

The numerous paintings presented in the gallery have an extraordinary use of color and design. There are also several drawings, that focus on real-life subjects such as people, places, and various objects, which show the artist's amazing attention to detail and impressive use of shading. Another mentionable aspect of the art gallery is the wild and vibrant masks. The textures and colors of the masks stand out among the other pieces of art.

At first glance the black and white photographs are not as captivating as the more colorful pieces, however, a closer look reveals otherwise. The photos appear to have taken an abundant amount of time and effort in order to get the perfect shot with just the right angle and lighting.

In the past weeks there has been a lecture series given by a variety of different artists. On March 27th, a lecture was held by Martin Antonetii, who is a curator of rare books at Smith College, and on April 10th. Richard Yard, a professor of painting at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, gave a presentation. Although these lectures have come and gone, there will be an artist visiting WSC on Thursday, April 24th. Nina Fletcher, who as a former w nurse practitioner, naturally gets most of her inspiration from the anatomy and physiology of the human body. Don't miss out on this presentation, which will be held from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m., and make sure to check out the art gallery, these images will surely generate an emotional reaction much like a favorite song or poem.

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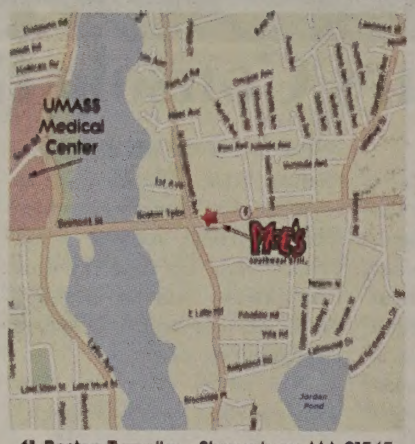

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All In The Timing

All in the Timing
By Joanna Good

Six one-act comedies by David Ives, "All in the Timing", were held in the Sullivan Auditorium at Worcester State College on April 10th, 11th, 12th, and the 13th. This play was for the most part, witty and entertaining; however it was difficult to enjoy the show when being forced to sit on hard metal benches. The benches were placed on stage and limited the number of available seats. Despite the uncomfortable seats, the play had many good qualities. The first act, "Sure Thing", showed an encounter between two people. As their conversation plays out, they are able to go back and change what is said. This is act is hilarious and sets the tone for the rest of the play. Another act, "Words, Words, Words", is about chimps trying to write "Hamlet". The chimps are cleverly named after three writers, Milton, Swift, and Kafka. The costumes are outrageous and perfect for this part. Possibly the funniest act of all is "The Philadelphia", which portrays Philadelphia ass a metaphysical state of being. The interactions between the characters of the waitress and her two friends provide an amusing dialogue which has the audience laughing nonstop.

One act in particular, "Philip Glass Buys a Loaf of Bread", was not as well received as the others. This act was meant to be surreal; however, the constant repetition became slightly irritating. On the other hand, the music was appropriate and helped to pass the time between each act. Another obvious perk of the play was its costumes. The costumes were well-made and seemed to fit the characters and the mood of the play. Overall the play was worth seeing.

The Supernatural Workings of the WSC Shakespeare Conference

Jenn Robbins and Jackie Morrill

On Saturday, April 19th Dr. Sharon Yang's (professor and Shakespeare enthusiast of the WSC Languages and Literature Department) hard work and organizational planning finally paid off. Both "authorities and devotees" of Shakespeare came together to celebrate the 7th Annual Undergraduate Shakespeare Conference of New England. Thirteen schools from across the northeast were welcomed onto the WSC campus to present and observe conference sessions under this year's theme of "The Natural, the Unnatural, and the Supernatural." In addition to those students, the president of the American Shakespeare Association, Dr. Coppelia Kahn, gave a riveting speech regarding the origins of misogyny and race in the infamous tragedy *Othello*. Three WSC students were among the eighteen presenters, Hayley Stefan, Jacqueline Morrill, and Steven Smyth.

The conference was composed of six sessions: "Gender and the Unnatural," "Where we are is Hell," "Eternal Life, Eternal Damnation," "Naturally Speaking," "Haunted Screen," and "Chaos Comes Again." Within these six sessions literature lovers expressed their opinions regarding recurring themes of witchcraft, sexuality, and even cinematic parallels to Shakespeare's many immortal works of drama. Although there were "technical difficulty issues" in one particular session, the show had to go on, and with that positive mentality, the conference goers continued in hopes of being awed by the staggering works of intelligence of each new session presenter.

Following the presentations, there were two $100 scholarship awards; the first was given by Bedford/St. Martin's Press and awarded to Patrick Cuff of Fitchburg State, the second was given by the Worcester Shakespeare Club, and awarded to Aaron Cutler of Brown University.

No doubt, the day would not have gone as smoothly as it had if it weren't for Professor Sharon Yang and the technical, logistical, and creative assistance of her husband De-Ping Yang. In addition, the staff, faculty, and students offered their support in preparing for this long, but satisfying day. Hats off to Professor Yang!

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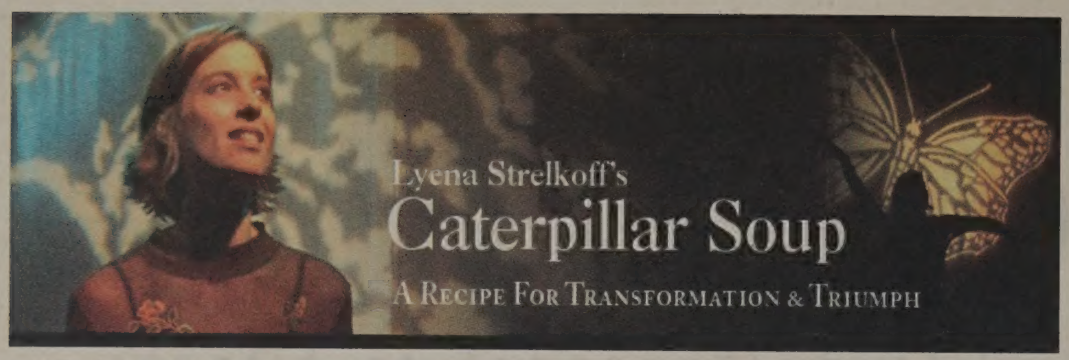


Caterpillar Soup

Jenn Robbins
Contributor

On October 4, 2002 Leyna Strelkoff's life changed forever. While walking through the park with her boyfriend Dean, she came across a tree that just seemed to scream "Climb me!" Just then her eight-year-old-self took over and ran for the tree. She began scaling the tree in search for the perfect limb. Finally she found her branch; however, as she was standing there, with her hand supporting her weight behind her, she heard a "crack". The branch under her hand had snapped and she began to lose her balance. She then had two choices, gain control of the situation and fix the outcome, like she had done her entire life, or let go and allow fate to lead the way.

Her decision to choose fate over control altered her life in such a way, that there was no way to overcome the devastation. She had fallen straight back out of the tree, and traveled through the air like a "feather falling through syrup" until "the ground shot up and hit [her]."

Amazingly enough, she did not go unconscious, it didn't even knock the wind out of her; however, she soon realized that she could not feel her legs. Shortly after, Dean had to leave her lying on the ground by herself to meet with the paramedics at the entrance to the park. As she lay there a voice in her head told her to "remember this, everything that is happening now is all that you need to remember." That is exactly what she did.

It was discovered that she had shattered her T-11, dislocated her vertebrae, broke a back rib that punctured her lung, and her spinal chord was pinched for eight to nine hours, cutting off all blood flow to the lower part of her body. She was a paraplegic. Leyna was lucky to have survived such a fall, although, she did not necessarily see it that way at the time.

Leyna had a "love affair with movement…to dance was to be perfectly [her]self," and this accident took all of this away from her in a matter of moments. Because her paralysis was due to impact, the doctors concluded that her paralysis was complete, and that the chance of recovery was slim; however, there was still one more hope for her.

She was paralyzed from the waist down, but there was still a chance that she could have "sexual sensations". As she lay in the hospital bed, traumatized by everything that had happened in the last few hours, the doctors then instructed her to "touch herself" to see if there was any feeling. There was nothing. This was when it hit her, that her life was altered forever.

Over the next few years she had many new experiences, made lots of new friends, and overcame hundreds of new obstacles that were never there before.

On the two year anniversary of the fall, Leyna, Dean, and a few friends returned to the tree. She had never realized before how far up she really was (twenty or more feet). Then, just as before, her eight-year-old-self told her to get back into the tree. Dean and a friend lifted her into one of the lower branches so that she could forgive what had happened. Leyna was finally at peace with what had happened, and accepted her fate. Just then "like a cheesy Spielberg ending, a butterfly flew through the grove, through the tree, and in front of my face."

Leyna Strelkoff performed her one act play, Caterpillar Soup, here at Worcester State on April 8, 2008. Her performance was the concluding event of the Diversity Lecture Series that has been inviting different speakers from around the world to our campus throughout this school year. Her story of triumph and hope has inspired the Worcester State community and will continue to inspire others all over the U.S.

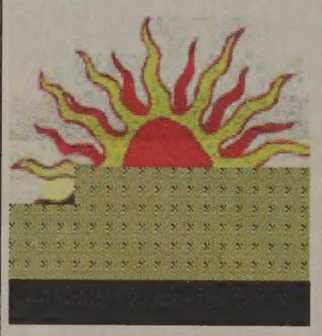
Let the Festivities Begin!

Chrissy Kenney
Staff Writer

On April 17th WSC students strolled into One Lancer Place to enjoy some free food and Lancer Vision Television's second annual Film Festival. Creator, senior Michael Lambias, put together the festival to allow LVTV members and also any other interested students, to submit films or video production work that they had created. In a three hour showing, students witnessed everything from short movies to LVTV's skit segments. Kicking off the night, President of LVTV, Craig Tiffany, revved up the audience by explaining all of the hard work students put into each of the films that were submitted, and hard work was definitely recognizable in each product of the festival. The audience chuckled at the silly sketch comedy skits LVTV has created over the last two years, such as a "guns on campus" spoof, and the crowd really let loose when the campus program ***Happy Hour*** bloopers showed up on the big screen.

On a more serious note, Jaye Strait's short film ***Rise of the Avenger*** was a well edited martial arts drama. The show also ended on a very somber note, when WSC alumni Nick Priest's film ***Generation Zero*** told the story about mutant students trying to survive on a human student campus; the film ended in a tragic, love-ridden death. However, Priest shows his comedic side in the festival as well with ***Drunken Exposure***, a funny feature revolving around the party-scene in college. The fourth film shown, submitted by student Michael Dobbs and his partner Christopher Vranos, ***The Manual***, was a hilarious story about two friends torn apart by "the force," and two light sabers they bought off of the internet. The audience ate this movie up, and it received a very positive reaction from the crowd. This year LVTV was very happy to see four films entered into the festival. Members of the organization relived memories from throughout the year from watching old clips of the shows and skits, such as the holiday episode of ***Happy Hour***, where all of the members of the organization piled in front of the camera to wish the WSC campus Happy Holidays. A surprisingly fluctuated turn-out in the OLP has reassured LVTV that the annual Film Festival is a great way to bring students together to appreciate all of the hard work and dedication that goes into video production work, and the organization plans to keep this tradition alive for the upcoming years at Worcester State College.

Have A Great Summer!!!!!



From the staff of the Worcester Student Voice, Worcester State's official Newspaper

Two Consortium-wide events this Sunday:

The First Annual Worcester County Poetry Association
COLLEGE POETRY COMPETITION FINALISTS' READING

Sunday, April 27, 2008, from 2:30 to 4:00 pm
Saxe Room, Worcester County Public Library, 1 Salem Square
http://wepa.homestead.com

ALLAN-MICHAEL BROWN, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
DAVID CORLISS, Worcester Polytechnic Institute
LAURA CRAWFORD, Fitchburg State College
ELIZABETH HEATH, Mount Wachusett Community College
GREGORY MINOGUE, Holy Cross College
LYNSEY SICKSCH, Assumption College
SANDY WADE, Quinsigamond Community College
MELANIE WILCOX, Worcester State College

The winners will be announced at a reception immediately following the reading

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